Hugh Cecil Earl of Lonsdale.

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69 Military Equitation: or, a Method of Breaking Horses, and Teaching Soldiers to Ride. Designed for the Use of the Army. By **Henry, Earl of Pembroke.** Scientia, et Patientia.

—— Equitem docuere sub armis
Insultare solo, et gressus glomerare superbos.
—VIRG.

Vis consili expers mole ruit suâ.—HOR.

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Dedicated to the King.

Contents:—Chap. I.—The method of preparing horses to be mounted, with the circumstances relative to it. Chap. II.—The method of placing the men and rendering them firm on horseback, with some occasional instructions for them and the horses; and of bits. Chap. III.—The method of suppling horses with men upon them, by the *Epaule en dedans*, etc., with and without a *longe*, on circles and on straiht lines; and of working horses in hand. Chap. IV.—Of the head to the wall, and of the croupe to the wall. Chap. V.—The Trot. Chap. VI.—The method of reining back, and of moving forwards immediately after—of piaffing—of pillars, etc., of moving pillars, etc. Chap. VII.—The method of teaching horses to stand fire, noises, alarms, sights, etc., of preventing their lying down in the water, to stand quiet to be shot off from, to go over rough and bad ground, to leap hedges, gates, ditches, etc., standing and flying,

MILITARY EQUITATION:

OR,

A METHOD OF BREAKING HORSES,

AND

TEACHING SOLDIERS TO RIDE.

DESIGNED FOR THE USE OF THE ARMY.

BY

HENRY EARL OF PEMBROKE,

&c. &c. &c.

Scientia, & Patientia.

——— Equitem docuere ſub armis
Inſultare ſolo, et greſſus glomerare ſuperbos. VIRG.

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THE FOURTH EDITION,

WITH PLATES.

LONDON:

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MDCCXCIII.

TO

THE KING.

SIR,

WHEN the firſt regiment of light dragoons was raiſed under the command of my friend General GEORGE AUGUSTUS ELIOTT, we had frequent occaſion to lament together the wretched ſyſtem of HORSEMANSHIP, that at preſent prevails in the ARMY: A ſyſtem diſgraceful in itſelf, and productive in its conſequences of the moſt fatal evils: For troops in their own nature moſt excellent and brave have been frequently rendered inferior to leſs powerful ones, both in men and horſes, for want of proper inſtructions and intelligence in this Art. Theſe ſerious conſiderations (for indeed they are very much ſo) induced me to write down and make public the following Leſſons, calculated for the uſe of the Cavalry: They are ſuch as I have always practiſed

tiſed myſelf; and taught both in the above-mentioned regiment and elſewhere, with conſtant ſucceſs. Incited by theſe reaſons, I thus preſume to lay at your Majeſty's feet this little work, the outlines only of a more extenſive, general one, which I intend to make public hereafter, ſhould I find time to finiſh it: And I am the more encouraged to it from the honour You have often done me of talking to me upon HORSEMANSHIP, as alſo from this confidence, that if what I here recommend, be deemed in any wiſe likely to be uſeful, (as I flatter myſelf it may, if candidly examined, and judiciouſly practiſed) it will not fail of receiving Your MAJESTY's Royal Approbation and Support. I am,

SIR,

YOUR MAJESTY's

MOST DUTIFUL SUBJECT,

AND DEVOTED SERVANT,

PEMBROKE.

PEMBROKE-HOUSE,
FEB. 15, 1761.

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ERRATA.

Page 42. l. 14. dele the *comma* after *properly.*
57. l. 15. for *appui's* read *appuis.*
61. l. 4. place a *comma* after *determinè.*
69. l. 2. place a *colon* after *themſelves.*
90. l. 11. place a *full ſtop* after *to.*
101. l. 15. for *deteſtible* read *deteſtable.*
103. l. 17. for *bevilled* read *bevelled.*
120. l. 17. dele *on* after *almoſt.*

A METHOD OF BREAKING HORSES, AND TEACHING SOLDIERS TO RIDE, &c.

CHAP. I.

The method of preparing horſes to be mounted, with the circumſtances relative to it.

THOUGH all horſes for the ſervice are generally bought at an age, when they have already been backed, I would have them begun and prepared for the rider with the ſame care, gentleneſs and caution, as if they had never been handled or backed, in order to prevent accidents, which might elſe ariſe from ſkittiſhneſs

or other cauſes: and as it is proper, that they ſhould be taught the figure of the ground they are to go upon, when they are at firſt mounted, they ſhould be previouſly trotted in a *longe* on large circles, without any one upon them, and without a ſaddle, or any thing elſe, at firſt, which might hurt, conſtrain, tickle, or make them any ways uneaſy.

The manner of doing this is as follows: Put an eaſy *caveſſon* upon the horſe's noſe, and make him go forwards round you, ſtanding quiet and holding the *longe*; and let another man, if you find it neceſſary, follow him with a whip: All this muſt be done very gently, and but a little at a time; for more horſes are ſpoilt by over-much work, than by any other treatment whatever; and that by very contrary effects, for ſometimes it drives them into vice, madneſs and deſpair, and often it ſtupifies them and totally diſpirits them. An excellent way of *longing* horſes, who are apt to carry their heads low, (which many do) is to *longe* them with a cord buckled to the top of the head-ſtall, and paſſing from thence through the eye of the ſnaffle into the hand of the perſon who holds the *longe*.

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The firſt obedience required in a horſe, is going forwards: 'Till he performs this duty freely, never even think of making him rein back, which would inevitably render him reſtive: As ſoon as he goes forwards readily, ſtop and careſs him. You muſt remember in this, and likewiſe in every other exerciſe, to uſe him to go equally well, to the right and left; and when he obeys, careſs him and diſmiſs him immediately. A horſe, though ever ſo perfect to one hand only, is but a half dreſſed horſe. If a horſe, that is very young, takes fright and ſtands ſtill, lead on another horſe before him, which probably will induce him inſtantly to follow. Put a ſnaffle in his mouth; which ſnaffle ſhould be full, and thick in the mouth-piece, and not too ſhort: and when he goes freely, ſaddle him, girting him at firſt very looſe. Let the cord, which you hold, be long and looſe; but not ſo much ſo, as to endanger the horſe's entangling his legs in it. It muſt be obſerved, that ſmall circles, in the beginning, would conſtrain the horſe too much, and put him upon defending himſelf. No bend muſt be required at firſt: never ſuffer him to gallop falſe; but whenever he attempts it, ſtop him with-

out delay, and then ſet him off afreſh. If he gallops of his own accord, and true, permit him to continue it; but if he does it not voluntarily, do not demand it of him at firſt. Should he fly and jump, ſhake the cord gently upon his noſe without jerking it, and he will fall into his trot again. If he ſtands ſtill, plunges or rears, let the man, who holds the whip, make a noiſe with it; but never touch him, 'till it be abſolutely neceſſary to make him go on. When you change hands, ſtop and careſs him, and entice him by fair means to come up to you: for by preſenting yourſelf, as ſome do, on a ſudden before horſes, and frightening them to the other ſide, you run a great riſk of giving them a ſhyneſs. If he keeps his head too low, heighten your hand, and ſhake the *caveſſon* to make him raiſe it: And in whatever the horſe does, whether he walks, trots, or gallops, let it be a conſtant rule, that the motion be determined and really ſuch as is intended, without the leaſt ſhuffling, pacing, or any other irregular gait. A falſe gait ſhould never be ſuffered. The trot is the pace, which enables all quadrupeds to balance and ſupport themſelves with firmneſs and eaſe. When he goes lightly, and freely,

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tie his head a little inwards by degrees: more, and more ſo, as he grows more ſupple, both in trotting, and galloping, in the *longe*, without any one upon him. Great care muſt be taken, that he always goes true, and that his head is not kept tied for any time together; for if it was, he would infallibly get a trick of leaning on the rein, and throw himſelf heavily upon his ſhoulders, when he grew tired. Every regiment ſhould have ſome covered place for their riding during the winter, or nothing hardly can be done in the bad ſeaſon. In good weather, it is full as well, and more pleaſant, to work out of doors: and indeed doing ſo frequently prevents local routines, which horſes are ſometimes particularly apt to take in ſhut ſchools, if great care is not taken. On the other hand, they are more often *diſtraied*, and apt to loſe their attention by various objects, in fields, than they are in a riding-houſe. It is therefore difficult to decide, either for the one, or the other. There is more liberty in the one, than in the other, and horſes out of doors grow uſed to objects they would otherwiſe fear. In ſhut ſchools, work may be more exactly done, perhaps, and the ground there is beſt. Both are good at proper ſeaſons, and either will do very well, if the Riding-Maſter is good.

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

The method of placing the men, and rendering them firm on horſeback; with ſome occaſional inſtructions for them and the horſes; and of bits.

'TIS neceſſary that the greateſt attention, and the ſame gentleneſs, that is uſed in teaching the horſes, be obſerved likewiſe in teaching the men, eſpecially at the beginning. Every method and art muſt be practiſed to create and preſerve, both in man and horſe, all poſſible feeling and ſenſibility, contrary to the uſage of moſt riding-maſters, who ſeem induſtriouſly to labour at aboliſhing theſe principles both in the one and the other. As ſo many eſſential points depend upon the manner, in which a man is at firſt placed on horſeback, it ought to be conſidered, and attended to with the ſtricteſt care and exactneſs.

The abſurdity of putting a man, who perhaps has never before been upon a horſe, (or if he has, 'tis probably ſo much the worſe) on a rough trotting one, on which he is obliged (ſuppoſing the horſe is inſenſible enough to ſuf-

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fer it; and if he be not, the man runs a great riſk of breaking his neck) to ſtick with all the force of his arms and legs, is too obvious to need mentioning. This rough work, all at once, is plainly as detrimental at firſt, as it is excellent afterwards in proper time. No man can be either well, or firmly ſeated on horſeback, unleſs he be maſter of the ballance of his body, quite unconſtrained, with a full poſſeſſion of himſelf, and at his eaſe, on all occaſions whatever; none of which requiſites can he enjoy, if his attention be otherwiſe engaged; as it muſt wholly be in a raw, unſuppled, and unprepared lad, who is put at once upon a rough horſe: In ſuch a diſtreſsful ſtate he is forced to keep himſelf on at any rate, by holding to the bridle, (at the expence of the ſenſibility both of his own hand, and the horſe's mouth) and by clinging with his legs, in danger of his life, and to the certain depravation of a right feeling in the horſe;---a thing abſolutely neceſſary to be kept delicate, for the forming properly both of man and horſe; not to mention the horrid appearance of ſuch a figure, rendered totally incapable of uſe and action.

The firſt time a man is put on horſeback, it ought to be

be upon a very gentle one. He never ſhould be made to trot, 'till he is quite eaſy in the walk, and then on very eaſy horſes at firſt. Afterwards, as he grows firmer, put him on rougher horſes, and augment by degrees the velocity of the trot. He ſhould not gallop, 'till he can trot well; becauſe, though the motion of the gallop is the eaſieſt, a horſe may be more eaſily unſettled in galloping than in trotting. The ſame muſt be obſerved in regard to horſes: they ſhould never be made to trot, 'till they are obedient, and their mouths are well formed on a walk; nor be made to gallop, 'till the ſame be effected on a trot. When he is arrived at ſuch a degree of firmneſs in his ſeat, the more he trots, (which no man whatever ſhould ever leave off) and the more he rides rough horſes, the better. This is not only the beſt method, (I may ſay, the only right one) but alſo the eaſieſt and the ſhorteſt: by it, a man is ſoon made ſufficiently an horſeman for a ſoldier; but by the other deteſtable methods, that are commonly uſed, a man, inſtead of improving, contracts all ſorts of bad habits, and rides worſe and worſe every day; the horſe too becomes daily more and more unfit for uſe. In proceeding according to the man-

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ner I have propoſed, a man is rendered firm and eaſy upon the horſe, and, as it were, of a piece with him; both his own and the horſe's ſenſibility is preſerved, and each in a ſituation fit to receive and practiſe all leſſons effectually: for if the man and horſe do not both work without difficulty and conſtraint, the more they are exerciſed, the worſe they become; every thing they do, is void of all grace, and of all uſe. When the man has acquired a perfect firmneſs on a ſaddle, he ſhould by degrees be made equally firm on a rug, or on a horſe's bare back; ſo much ſo, as to be as firm, to work as well, and be quite as much at his eaſe, as on any demi-pique ſaddle. Very little patience and attention will bring this about.

Among the various methods, that are uſed, of placing people on horſeback, few are directed by reaſon. Some inſiſt, that ſcarce any preſſure at all ſhould be upon the backſide; others would have the ſeat be almoſt upon the back-bone: out of theſe two contrary, and equally ridiculous methods, an excellent one may be found, by taking the medium. Before you let the man mount, teach him to know, and always to examine, if the curb be well

placed, (I mean, when the horſe has a bit in his mouth, which at firſt he ſhould not, but only a ſnaffle, 'till the rider is firm in his ſeat, and the horſe alſo ſomewhat taught) and likewiſe if the noſe-band be properly tight; the throat-band looſiſh, and the mouth-piece neither too high, nor too low in the horſe's mouth, but rightly put, ſo as not to wrinkle the ſkin, nor to hang lax; the girts drawn moderately, but not too tight; the crupper, and the breaſt-plate, properly adjuſted, and whether the reins are of equal length. They ſhould be frequently taken off and made ſo, when they are found not to be ſo. A very good and careful hand may venture on a bit at firſt, and ſucceed with it full as well, as by beginning with a ſnaffle alone: but ſuch a proceeding will require more care, more delicacy, and more time, than can be expected in a corps, whoſe numbers are ſo conſiderable, and where there are ſo few, if any good riders: A raw man is much eaſier taught to do well, than one, who has learnt ever ſo long, on bad principles; for it is much more difficult to undo, than to do; and the ſame in reſpect to the horſe. On colts, it is better in all ſchools whatſoever, to avoid any preſſure on the bars juſt at firſt, which a curb, though ever ſo delicately

cately uſed, muſt in ſome degree occaſion. Whoever begins a horſe with a bridle, muſt be, in every reſpect, a very good, delicate rider, and be very careful that the horſe does not get and keep his head low, whereby all action in the ſhoulders is ſpoiled. I have ſeen ſome ſchools, in France particularly, where a bit was immediately put into a horſe's mouth at firſt; but I have conſtantly obſerved in thoſe ſchools, that their horſes carried their heads low, that the motion of their ſhoulders was not free, but confined. Here and there one horſe or ſo, indeed, there might be, whoſe fore-hand nature had placed ſo high, that nothing could bring it down low. Great care muſt be taken to make the men uſe their ſnaffles delicately; otherwiſe, as a ſnaffle has not the power, which a bridle has upon a horſe's mouth, they will uſe themſelves to take ſuch liberties with it, as will quite ſpoil their hands, and teach the horſes to pull, be dead in hand, and quite upon their ſhoulders, entirely deprived of good action. Whenever any bridles are uſed, (and they always ſhould be at a proper time, when the horſes' heads are high, and they are well determined, light in hand, and free in their motions) they muſt be all the ſame; for though different

mouths require different ſorts of bits, it is abſolutely neceſſary that ſome general uniform ſort ſhould be uſed throughout a whole regiment. They ſhould differ only in breadth, according to the breadth of each horſe's mouth. There needs no great variety of ſizes for bitting a whole regiment. The beſt I could ever pitch on, after repeated trials, is one made after the following drawing. (*Plate* I.) The weight of the bit, without the curb, is about fourteen ounces three quarters, the curb alone weighs about four ounces and a quarter, and the little chain to prevent horſes taking the branches in their mouth, (which is a trick very many horſes get) three quarters of an ounce. The whole together weighs one pound, three ounces, and three quarters. The rings to the branches ſhould be fixed, and the reins buckled to them, to prevent the latter from twiſting. The mouth-piece is of a proper ſhape, height, and ſubſtance, and is fixed. All ſuch as are not ſo, and move in the joint, have a bad, uncertain effect. Thin curbs are bad, and apt, if at all roughly uſed, (a thing very difficult to prevent at all times in ſome people's hands) to cut, and damage the horſe's mouth very much. They ſhould be flat, broad,

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and eaſy, that they may not hurt the horſe's *barbe*, but they muſt not be thick, or heavy. This bridle is calculated for light troops. Heavier corps, who have larger horſes, and of another kind, may have the branches a quarter of an inch longer, and the whole bridle ſomewhat, but very little more ſubſtantial. Bridles ſhould never be uſed with raw recruits, or with raw horſes, at firſt: a plain mouthed, ſmooth ſnaffle, does much better; the twiſted, ſharp, cutting ones, are barbarous, callous making inſtruments at beſt; the ſingle ones, as well as the double rein ones, are often very uſeful, and agreeable even with dreſſed horſes upon all airs whatſoever, if they are apt to get their heads low. When theſe neceſſary precautions have been all taken, let the man approach the horſe gently near the ſhoulder; then taking the reins and an handful of the mane in his left hand, let him put his left foot ſoftly into the left ſtirrup, (but not too far in) by pulling it towards him, leſt he touch the horſe with his toe, which might frighten him; then raiſing himſelf up, let him reſt a moment on it with his body upright, but not ſtiff: and after that, paſſing his right leg clear over the ſaddle, without rubbing againſt any thing, let him ſeat himſelf

himſelf gently down. The ſame precautions muſt alſo be taken in diſmounting. He muſt be cautious not to take the reins too ſhort, for fear of making the horſe rear, run, or fall back, or throw up his head; but let him hold them of an equal length, neither tight nor ſlack, and with the little finger betwixt them. 'Tis fit that horſes ſhould be accuſtomed to ſtand ſtill to be mounted, and not ſtir 'till the rider pleaſes. The man, who holds the horſe to be mounted, muſt not do it by the bridle, but only by the cheeks of the head-ſtall, and gently, otherwiſe the ſame inconvenience might ariſe, as from the rider's holding the reins too ſhort himſelf in mounting. All ſoldiers ſhould be inſtructed to mount and diſmount equally well on both ſides, which may be of very great uſe in times of hurry and confuſion. Place the man in his ſaddle, with his body rather back, and his head held up with eaſe, without ſtiffneſs; ſeated neither forwards, nor very backwards, with the breaſt puſhed out a little, and the lower part of the body likewiſe a little forwards; the thighs and legs turned in without conſtraint, and the feet in a ſtrait line, neither turned in nor out: By this poſition, the natural weight of the thighs has a proper and ſufficient preſſure of itſelf,

ſelf, and the legs are in readineſs to act, when called upon: they muſt hang down eaſy and naturally, and be ſo placed, as not to be wriggling about, touching and tickling the horſe's ſides, but always near them in caſe they ſhould be wanted, as well as the heels.

The body muſt be carefully kept eaſy and firm, and without any rocking, when in motion; which is a bad habit very eaſily contracted, eſpecially in galloping. The left elbow muſt be gently leant againſt the body, a little forwards; unleſs it be ſo reſted, the hand cannot be ſteady, but will be always checking, and conſequently have pernicious effects on the horſe's mouth: and the hand ought to be of equal height with the elbow; if it were lower, it would conſtrain and confine the motion of the horſe's ſhoulders, which muſt be free. I ſpeak here of the poſition of the hand in general; for as the mouths of horſes are different, the place of the hand alſo muſt occaſionally differ: a leaning, low, heavy fore-hand, requires a high hand; and a horſe that pokes out his noſe, a low one. The right hand arm muſt be placed in ſymmetry with the left; only let the right hand be a little forwarder

warder or backwarder, higher or lower, as occaſions may require: in order that both hands may be free, both arms muſt be a little bent at the elbow, to prevent ſtiffneſs.

A ſoldier's right hand ſhould be kept unemployed in riding; it carries the ſword, which is a ſufficient buſineſs for it: In learning therefore to ride, the men ſhould have a whip or ſwitch in it, and hold it upwards, that they may thereby know how to carry their ſwords properly, keeping it downwards only, when they mount or diſmount, that the horſe may not be frightened at the ſight of it.

The hand muſt be kept clear of the body, about two inches and a half forwards from it, with the nails turned oppoſite to the waiſtcoat buttons, and the wriſt a little rounded with eaſe; a poſition not leſs graceful than ready for ſlackening, tightening, and moving the reins from one ſide to the other, as may be found neceſſary.

A firm and well balanced poſition of the body, on horſeback, is (as has already been ſaid) of the utmoſt conſequence; as it affects the horſe in every motion, and

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is the beſt of helps: whereas on the contrary, the want of it is the greateſt detriment to him, and an impediment in all his actions. Many people make a great difference about ſaddles, as a ſerious object of firmneſs; but nobody can be truly ſaid to have a ſeat, who is not equally firm on flat, or demi-piqued ſaddles, on the true principles of equilibre, and eaſe. When the men are well placed, the more rough trotting they have, without ſtirrups, the better; but with a ſtrict care always, that their poſition be preſerved very exactly. As for thoſe unfeeling fellows, who continue ſticking by their hands, in ſpite of all the teacher's attention to prevent it, nothing remains to be done, but to make them drop the reins quite on a ſafe-going horſe, and to keep their hands in the ſame poſition, as if they held them. In all caſes without exception, but more eſpecially in this, great care muſt be taken to hinder their clinging with their legs: in ſhort, no ſticking by hands or legs is ever to be allowed of at any time. If the motion of the horſe be too rough, ſlacken it, 'till the rider grows by degrees more firm: and when he is quite firm and eaſy on his horſe in every kind of motion, ſtirrups may be given him; but he muſt never leave off trotting often, and working often without any.

The ſtirrups muſt be neither ſhort nor long; but of ſuch a length that when the rider, being well placed, puts his feet into them, (about one-third of the length of the foot from the point of it) the points may be between two and three inches higher than the heels: longer ſtirrups are bad, and would make it very difficult for the rider to get his leg over the baggage, forage, cloak, &c. which are faſtened on behind upon the ſaddle: and ſhorter would be bad in every reſpect, and anſwer no end at all. The length I mentioned above, is juſt the right one, and is to be taken in the following method: make the rider place himſelf upon the ſaddle, even, upright and well, with his legs hanging down, and the ſtirrups likewiſe: and when he is in this poſition, raiſe the rider's toe to an equal height with his heel, and take up the ſtirrup, 'till the bottom of it comes juſt under the ankle-bone. The ſtirrups muſt be exactly of an equal length. The rider muſt not bear upon his ſtirrups, but only let the natural weight of his legs reſt on them: for if he bore upon them, he would be raiſed above, and out of his ſaddle; which ſhould never be, except in charging ſword in hand, with the body inclined forwards at the very inſtant of attacking.

ing. Spurs may be given, as ſoon as the rider is grown familiar with ſtirrups, or even long before, if his legs are well placed.

Delicacy in the uſe of the hands, as well as in the uſe of the legs, may be given by the teacher to a certain degree; but 'tis nature alone that can beſtow that great ſenſibility, without which neither one nor the other can be formed to any great perfection. A hand ſhould be firm, but delicate: a horſe's mouth ſhould never be ſurpriſed by any ſudden tranſition of it, either from ſlack to tight, or from tight to ſlack. Every thing in horſemanſhip muſt be effected by degrees, and with delicacy, but at the ſame time with ſpirit and reſolution. That hand, which by giving and taking properly, gains its point with the leaſt force, is the beſt; and the horſe's mouth, under this ſame hand's directions, will alſo conſequently be the beſt, ſuppoſing equal advantages in both from nature. This principle of gentleneſs ſhould be obſerved upon all occaſions in every branch of horſemanſhip. Hard, bad mouths, may appear ſoft and good to an inſenſible hand; ſo that it is impoſſible to form any judgment of a horſe's mouth by

what any body tells you of it, unleſs you know the degree of ſenſibility, and ſcience that perſon is poſſeſſed of in horſemanſhip, or ride the horſe yourſelf. Sometimes the right hand may be neceſſary, for a moment, upon ſome troubleſome horſes, to aſſiſt the left; but the ſeldomer this is done, the better; eſpecially in a ſoldier, who has a ſword to carry, and to make uſe of.

The ſnaffle muſt on all occaſions be uppermoſt, that is to ſay, the reins of it muſt be above thoſe of the bridle, whether the ſnaffle or the bit be uſed ſeparately, or whether they be both uſed together. When the rider knows enough, and the horſe is ſufficiently prepared and ſettled to begin any work towards ſuppling, one rein muſt be ſhortened according to the ſide worked to, (as is explained in its proper place) but it muſt never be ſo much ſhortened, as to make the whole ſtrength reſt on that rein alone; for, not to mention that the work would be falſe and bad, one ſide of the horſe's mouth would by that means be always deadened; whereas on the contrary, it ſhould always be kept freſh by its own play, and by the help of the oppoſite rein's acting delicately in a ſmaller

degree

degree of tenſion; the joint effects of which produce in a horſe's mouth the proper, gentle, and eaſy degree of *appui* or bearing; to preſerve which, when obtained, the horſe muſt not be over-worked; if he is, he will, beſides other bad conſequences, throw himſelf on his ſhoulders into the rider's hand, like a tired poſt-horſe on the road. Colts indeed, as well as men, at firſt muſt be taught the effect of the reins taken ſeparately, for fear of confounding them in the beginning with mixed effects of them at once. Avoid working in deep, bad ground; beſides its ſpoiling a horſe's paces, it obliges him to throw himſelf on his ſhoulders upon the rider's hand, and teaches him to toſs his head about diſagreeably.

A coward and a madman make alike bad riders, and are both alike diſcovered and confounded by the ſuperior ſenſe of the creature they are mounted upon, who is equally ſpoilt by both, though in very different ways. The coward, by ſuffering the animal to have his own way, not only confirms him in his bad habits, but creates new ones in him: and the madman, by falſe and violent motions and corrections, ruins the horſe, and drives him, through

through deſpair, into every bad and vicious trick that rage can ſuggeſt.

All horſes heads muſt be kept very high, 'till they are quite determined, and free in the motions of their ſhoulders.

It is very requiſite in horſemanſhip, that the hand and legs ſhould act in correſpondence with each other in every thing; the latter always ſubſervient and aſſiſtant to the former. Upon circles, in walking, trotting, or galloping, (I mean only where nothing more is intended) the outward leg is the only one to be uſed, and that only for a moment at a time, in order to make the horſe go true, if he be falſe; and as ſoon as that is done, it muſt be taken away again immediately. If the horſe is lazy, or any ways retains himſelf, both legs muſt be uſed, and preſſed to his ſides at the ſame time together; if after having tried ſofter methods, ſuch as a gentle preſſure of the thighs, and putting the legs back, they ſhould fail, but not before. The leſs the legs are uſed in general, the better. Very delicate riders, in regular well attended good ſchools, never want their help; and horſes ſo dreſ-

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ſed, are by far ſuperior to all others: they obey the ſmalleſt touch on the rein, or the leaſt weight of the body thrown one way, or the other, imperceptibly, as may be neceſſary: the horſe and man ſeem one, and the ſame, and ſuch is the practice and teaching of great maſters; but that perfection in the feeling of either man, or horſe, is not to be expected in the hurry which can not be avoided in a regimental ſchool, where the numbers are ſo great. By the term outward, is underſtood the ſide which is more remote from the center; and by inward, is meant the ſide next to the center. In reining back, the rider ſhould be careful not to uſe his legs, unleſs the horſe backs on his ſhoulders; in which caſe, they muſt be both applied gently at the ſame time, and correſpond with the hand. If the horſe refuſe to back at all, the rider's legs muſt be gently approached, 'till the horſe lifts up a leg, as if to go forwards; at which time, when that leg is in the air, the rein of the ſame ſide with that leg, which is lifted up, will eaſily bring that ſame leg backwards, and accordingly oblige the horſe to back: but if the horſe offers to rear, the legs muſt be inſtantly removed away. The inward rein muſt be the tighter on circles, ſo that

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the horſe may bend and look inwards; and the outward one croſſed over a little towards it; and both held in the left hand, that ſoldiers may not have their right employed, which, as has before been obſerved, muſt be left free for other more neceſſary uſes.

Let the man and horſe begin all leſſons whatſoever on very ſlow motions, that they may have time to underſtand, and reflect on what is taught them; but though the motions are ſlow, they muſt not be dull, but determined, and without heſitation. In proportion as the effects of the reins are better comprehended, and the manner of working becomes more familiar, the quickneſs of motion muſt be increaſed. Every rider muſt learn to feel, without the help of the eye, when a horſe goes falſe, even in the moſt ſpeedy, and moſt violent motions, and remedy the fault accordingly: this is an intelligence, which nothing but practice, application, and attention, can give, in the beginning on ſlow motions. A horſe may not only gallop falſe, but alſo trot and walk falſe. If a horſe gallops falſe, that is to ſay, if going to the right, he leads with the left leg; or if going to the left, he leads with the right;

right; or in caſe he is diſunited, by which is meant, if he leads with the oppoſite leg behind to that which he leads with before, ſtop him immediately, and put him off again properly: the method of effecting this, is by approaching your outward leg, gently, and putting your hand outwards, ſtill keeping the inward rein the ſhorter, and the horſe's head inwards, if poſſible; but if he ſhould ſtill reſiſt, then bend and pull his head outwards alſo. Replace it again, bent properly inwards, the moment he goes off true. The help of the leg in this, and indeed all other caſes, muſt not be made uſe of at all, 'till that of the hand alone has proved ineffectual. A horſe is ſaid to be diſunited to the right, when going to the right, and conſequently leading with the right leg before, he leads with the left behind; and is ſaid to be diſunited to the left, when going to the left, and conſequently leading with the left leg before, he leads with the right behind. A horſe may at the ſame time be both falſe and diſunited; in correcting both which faults, the ſame method muſt be uſed. He is both falſe and diſunited to the right, when in going to the right he leads with the left leg before, and the right behind; notwithſtanding that hinder leg be with propriety

more forward under his belly, than the left, becauſe the horſe is working to the right: and he is falſe and diſunited to the left, when in going to the left, he leads with the right leg before, and the left behind; notwithſtanding, as above, that hinder leg be with propriety more forward under his belly than the right, becauſe the horſe is working to the left.

Care muſt be taken, that horſes, in ſtopping on the gallop, ſtop true, behind particularly, which they are very apt not to do; eſpecially in the longe, and bent, without any one on them.

In teaching men a right ſeat on horſeback, the greateſt attention muſt be given to prevent ſtiffneſs, and ſticking by force in any manner upon any occaſion: ſtiffneſs diſgraces every work; and ſticking ſerves only to throw a man (when diſplaced) a great diſtance from his horſe, by the ſpring he muſt go off with: whereas by a proper equilibrating poſition of the body, and by the natural weight only of the thighs, he cannot but be firm, and ſecure in his ſeat.

As

As the men become more firm, and the horſes more ſupple, 'tis proper to make the circles leſs, but not too much ſo, for fear of throwing the horſes forwards upon their ſhoulders.

No bits ſhould be uſed, 'till the riders are firm, and the horſes bend well to right and left; and then too always with the greateſt care and gentleneſs. The ſilly cuſtom of uſing ſtrong and heavy bits, is in all good ſchools with reaſon laid aſide, as it ſhould be likewiſe in military riding: they pull down the horſe's head, keep it low, thereby obſtruct the action of the fore parts, and harden as much the hand of the rider, as the mouth of the horſe; both which becoming every day more and more inſenſible together, nothing can be expected but a moſt unfeeling callouſneſs both in one and the other. Some horſes, when firſt the bit is put into their mouths, if great care be not taken, will put their heads very low; which low poſition of the head, provided the top of the head, and the noſe, be nearly perpendicular, ſome ignorant people call a good one; without conſidering, that the higher the top of the head is, provided that it is nearly perpendicular with the

noſe, the better the poſition is on every account. If the top of the head is low, the poſition is a bad one, notwithſtanding the head and noſe being nearly perpendicular, becauſe it obſtructs the action of the fore parts. With ſuch horſes, raiſe your right hand with the *bridcon* in it, and play at the ſame time with the bit in the left hand, giving and taking. A ſtrong bit, indeed, will flatter an ignorant hand, juſt at firſt; but it will never any other, nor even an ignorant one for any time together; for the horſe's mouth will ſoon grow callous to it, and unfeeling, and the hand the ſame. Moſt horſes, whoſe heads are heavy, are apt to ſtumble.

On circles, the rider muſt lean his body inwards; unleſs great attention be given to make him do it, he will be perpetually loſing his ſeat outwards, every rapid or irregular motion the horſe may make. 'Tis ſcarce poſſible for him to be diſplaced, if he leans his body properly inwards.

Inſtructions, both to man and horſe, in riding, are of the greateſt importance and conſequence; as the ſucceſs of actions in a great meaſure depends upon them. Squadrons

drons are frequently broken and defeated through the ignorance of the riders, or horſes, but moſt commonly of both together. Many and various are the diſaſters, that ariſe from the horſes not being properly prepared and ſuppled, and from the men not being taught firm ſeats, independent of their hands, and the mouths of their horſes. Were the men rightly inſtructed how to keep the mouths of their horſes freſh and obedient, and thereby maintain a cadenced pace, (be it ever ſo faſt, or ever ſo ſlow) ranks would of courſe be always dreſſed, and unſhaken, and conſequently always powerful. The ſtouteſt, and by nature, the beſt of cavalry, is often broken, and thereby rendered inferior far to much weaker and leſs reſpectable bodies than themſelves, for want of being properly informed in the above-mentioned, and ſuch-like particulars. This is a matter worthy of a ſerious inſpection, conſideration, and amendment, the neglect of which has upon many occaſions been very fatal. 'Tis to be hoped, that ſome perſon of ſufficient authority and knowledge will contrive to introduce many alterations, that appear very neceſſary in the cavalry. To what purpoſe is cavalry loaded with ſuch monſtrous heavy boots and firelock? a lighter,

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yet full as ſtrong, and much more ſerviceable boot might be eaſily contrived. A light carabine would ſuit them far better. A hat ſeems to me a ſilly and uſeleſs piece of dreſs in a ſoldier: it is continually falling off, eſpecially in action; nor can it ever ſerve as a protection againſt blows, &c. or bad weather, which are circumſtances of great conſequence; whereas a cap has no inconveniences at all attending it, may be made very ornamental and of a martial appearance, and in ſuch a manner, as to be a good fence againſt blows, rain, ſnow, and ſtormy winds, and alſo convenient to ſleep in.

CHAP. III.

The method of ſuppling horſes, with men upon them, by the EPAULE en dedans, *&c. with and without a* longe, *on circles and on ſtrait lines; and of working horſes in hand.*

WHEN a horſe is well prepared and ſettled in all his motions, ('till when nothing more muſt be attempted) and the rider firm, (which is alſo as abſolutely neceſſary) it will be proper then to proceed on towards a farther ſuppling and teaching of both. In regiments, eſpecially thoſe that are young, there are but very few, if any, tolerable horſemen; which makes the greateſt exactneſs and gentleneſs abſolutely neceſſary in the inſtructing of both: and more particularly ſo in this caſe, as horſe and man are both ignorant, and muſt be both alike taught together; which is a difficulty, that does not exiſt in ſchools; for there a young rider is put upon a made, or at leaſt a quiet horſe; nor do any, but able riders, ever mount a raw one.

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In ſetting out upon this new work, before which the horſe ſhould be taught to go well into the corners, both with his fore and hinder parts, on a walk, (without being bent, for that cannot be yet expected, though it will be ſoon) and be very light in hand; when he does it, begin by bringing the horſe's head a little more inwards than before, pulling the inward rein gently to you by degrees. When this is done, try to gain a little on the ſhoulders, by keeping the inward rein the ſhorter, as before, and the outward one croſſed over towards the inward one. The intention of theſe operations is this: the inward rein ſerves to bring in the head, and procures the bend; whilſt the outward one, that is a little croſſed, tends to make that bend perpendicular, and as it ſhould be; that is to ſay, to reduce the noſe and the forehead to be in a perpendicular line with each other: it alſo ſerves, if put forwards, as well as alſo croſſed, to put the horſe forwards, if found neceſſary; which is often requiſite, many horſes being apt in this, and other works, rather to loſe their ground backwards, than otherwiſe, when they ſhould rather advance: if the noſe were drawn in towards the breaſt beyond the perpendicular, it would confine the motion

tion of the ſhoulders, and have other bad effects. All other bends, beſides what I have above ſpecified, are falſe. The outward rein, being croſſed, not in a forward ſenſe, but rather a little backwards, ſerves alſo, when neceſſary, to prevent the outward ſhoulder from getting too forwards, which facilitates the inward leg's croſſing it; which is the motion that ſo admirably ſupples the ſhoulders. Care muſt be taken, that the inward leg paſs over the outward one, without touching it; this inward leg's croſſing over muſt be helped by the inward rein, which you muſt croſs towards and over the outward rein, every time the outward leg comes to the ground, in order to lift and help the inward leg over it: at any other time, but juſt when the outward leg is come to the ground, it would be wrong to croſs the inward rein, or to attempt to lift up the inward leg by it: nay, it would be demanding an abſolute impoſſibility, and lugging about the reins and horſe to no purpoſe; becauſe a very great part of the horſe's weight reſting upon the inward leg would render ſuch an attempt, not only fruitleſs, but alſo prejudicial to the ſenſibility of the mouth, and probably o-

blige him to defend himſelf, without being productive of any ſuppling motion whatſoever.

When the horſe is thus far familiarly accuſtomed to what you have required of him, (but by no means before he is entirely ſo) then proceed to effect by degrees the ſame croſſing in his hinder legs. By bringing in the fore legs more, you will of courſe engage the hinder ones in the ſame work: if they reſiſt, the rider muſt bring both reins more inwards; and, if neceſſary, put back alſo, and approach his inward leg to the horſe: and if the horſe throws out his croup too far, the rider muſt bring both reins outwards, and if abſolutely neceſſary, (but not otherwiſe) he muſt alſo delicately make uſe of his outward leg for a moment, in order to replace the horſe properly; obſerving, that the croup ſhould always be conſiderably behind the ſhoulders, which in all actions muſt go firſt; and the moment that the horſe obeys, the rider muſt put his hand and leg again into their uſual poſition. In this leſſon, as indeed in almoſt all others, the corners muſt not be neglected: the horſe ſhould go well, and thoroughly into them. Bring his fore parts into them, by croſſing

croſſing over the inward rein towards the outward one, (but without taking off from the proper bend of the head, neck, and ſhoulders) and bring them out of the corner again by croſſing over the outward rein towards the inward one. Theſe uſes of the reins have alſo their proper effects upon the hinder parts.

Nothing is more ungraceful in itſelf, more detrimental to a man's ſeat, or more deſtructive of the ſenſibility of a horſe's ſides, than a continual wriggling unſettledneſs in a horſeman's legs, which prevents the horſe from ever going a moment together true, ſteady, or determined. 'Tis impoſſible, upon the whole, for a man to be too firm, ſettled, and gentle. A ſoft motion may be always inforced, if neceſſary, with eaſe; but an harſh one is irrecoverable, and its bad conſequences very often almoſt irreparable. Men are very apt to get this trick of wriggling their legs, even in going ſtrait forward, and more ſo with one leg particularly put back in changing of hands; which ſhould be done by the reins only, in a graceful, ſtill manner, and without letting the horſe either throw himſelf over too faſt, or go lazily over to the other hand;

the rider's hand alone is almoſt always ſufficient; and, if it ſhould not, many things ſhould be tried, before ſo ugly, and bad a reſource, as the above-mentioned is thought of; 1ſt, that of ſqueezing the thighs; 2d, approaching gently the calves of the legs, and 3d, uſing the ſpur; but without diſtorting the leg, or foot, which a good maſter will not permit to be done.

A horſe ſhould never be turned, without firſt moving a ſtep forwards; an imperceptible motion only of the hand, from one ſide to the other, is ſufficient to turn him. It muſt alſo be a conſtant rule, never to ſuffer a horſe to be ſtopped, mounted, or diſmounted, but when he is well placed.

At firſt, the figures worked upon muſt be great, and afterwards made leſs by degrees, according to the improvement which the man and horſe make; and the cadenced pace alſo, which they work in, muſt be accordingly augmented. The changes from one ſide to the other, muſt be in a bold, determined trot, and at firſt quite ſtraight forwards, without demanding any ſide motion on two *piſtes*, which it is very neceſſary to require afterwards, when

when the horſe is ſufficiently ſuppled. By two *piſtes* is meant, when the fore parts and hinder parts do not follow, but deſcribe two different lines.

In the beginning, a *longe* is uſeful on circles, and alſo on ſtraight lines, to help both the rider and the horſe; but afterwards, when they are grown more intelligent, they ſhould go alone. No one, not even the beſt riders, ſhould ever quite leave off trotting every now and then, in the *longe*, both with, and without ſtirrups. At the end of the leſſon rein back, and then put the horſe, by a little at a time, forwards, by approaching both legs gently, and with an equal degree of preſſure, to his ſides, (if neceſſary) and playing with the bridle: if he rears, puſh him out immediately into a full trot. Shaking the *caveſſon* on the horſe's noſe, and alſo putting one's ſelf before him, and rather near to him, will generally make him back, though he otherwiſe refuſe to do it: and moreover, a ſlight uſe and approaching of the rider's legs, will ſometimes be neceſſary in backing, in order to prevent the horſe from doing it too much upon his ſhoulders; but the preſſure of the legs ought to be very ſmall, and taken quite

quite away the moment that he puts himſelf enough upon his haunches. The horſe muſt learn by degrees to back upon a ſtraight line, but to make him do ſo, the rider muſt not be permitted to have recourſe immediately to his leg, and ſo diſtort himſelf by it, (which is generally practiſed with the common ſort of riding-maſters) but firſt try, if croſſing over his hand and reins, to which ever ſide may be neceſſary, will not be alone ſufficient; which moſt frequently it will; if not, then employ the leg, which ſhould never be uſed 'till the laſt extremity.

After a horſe is well prepared, and ſettled, and goes freely on in all his ſeveral paces, he ought to be in all his works kept, to a proper degree, upon his haunches, with his hinder legs well placed under him; whereby he will be always pleaſant to himſelf, and his rider, will be light in hand, and ready to execute whatever may be demanded of him in reaſon, with facility, vigour, quickneſs, and delicacy.

The common method, that is uſed, of forcing a horſe ſideways, is a moſt glaring abſurdity, and very hurtful to the animal in its conſequences; for, inſtead of ſup-

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pling him, it obliges him to ſtiffen and defend himſelf, and often makes a creature, that is naturally benevolent, a reſtive, frightened, and vicious man-hater for ever. In general 'tis a maxim, as conſtantly to be remembered, as it is true, that it is more difficult to correct faults and bad habits, than to foreſee and prevent them. Horſes under riders, who uſe their legs, are, when going to work on two piſtes, perpetually ſetting off with the croup foremoſt, than which nothing hardly can be worſe. It is owing to the leg of the rider being applied to the ſide of the horſe, before the hand has determined the fore parts of the animal, on the line, upon which he is to go.

For horſes, who have very long and high fore-hands, and who poke out their noſes, a running ſnaffle is of excellent uſe; but for ſuch, as bore and keep their heads low, a common one is preferable; though any horſe's head indeed may be kept up alſo with a running one, by the rider's keeping his hands very high and forwards; but that occaſions a bad and aukward poſition in the man. They are, as plainly appears from their conſtruction, bad for tripping and ſtumbling horſes. Whenever either is

uſed

uſed alone, without a bridle, upon horſes that carry their heads low, and that bore, it muſt be gently ſawed about from one ſide to the other.

Every body knows the conſtruction of a running ſnaffle. (*Plate* 2.) They will ſee from that conſtruction, that the purchaſe of it is greater than that of a common one. As its firſt point of *appui* is at the pommel of the ſaddle, lower than the rider's hand, they will alſo eaſily perceive, why they are good for horſes, who have high light fore-hands, and why they are bad for ſuch as have low and heavy ones. They are good for many horſes, when uſed as a bridoon with a bridle, in caſes of remarkably long, high fore-hands, and poking heads. On horſes, whoſe heads and fore-hands are difficult to raiſe, a running ſnaffle, but not one fixed in the uſual manner, is often very uſeful. The reins of it ſhould be paſſed through an eye fixed on each ſide the head, pretty high up on the head-ſtall towards the ears, before they come into the rider's hand. (*Plate* 3.) When fixed at firſt to the rings on the head-ſtall, and coming through the eyes of the ſnaffle into the rider's hand, without being at all fixed to the ſaddle, they will

will often alſo be very uſeful. This leſſon of the *Epaule en dedans*, is a very touchſtone in horſemanſhip, both for man and horſe. Neither one nor the other can be dreſſed to any degree without a conſummate knowledge of it; but it muſt not on any account be practiſed in the field in exercifes, or evolutions: there the horſes muſt always bend towards the ſide they are going, a thing (to the ſhame of the cavalry be it ſpoken) ſo rare to be ſeen. The *Epaule en dedans* reverſed, is particularly advantageous to horſes who are apt to throw themſelves forward. By reverſed, I mean when the ſhoulders are worked upon the outward larger circle, and the croup on the ſmaller circle next the center.

Horſes well perfected in the *Epaule en dedans* may undertake, and ſoon learn any other leſſons whatſoever. It ought, like all others, to be practiſed on all figures, circles, ſtrait lines, ſquares, &c. and when on this laſt, which is an excellent leſſon, (as alſo in every leſſon, and on all figures, where there are corners and angles) care muſt be taken concerning the ſhoulders and croup, that, which ever of them is to enter the corner firſt, may go

quite into it; and let that which goes in laſt, follow exactly the ſame ground. This rule can not be too much attended to. The croup, indeed, can never enter the corner firſt, except in working backwards.

Of working in hand.

WORKING in hand requires a certain degree of activity, a quick eye, and, like every thing elſe about horſes, good temper, and judgment. Though it can not be looked upon as a very difficult thing, I have ſeen few people ſucceed in it: none indeed, to any conſiderable degree, except Sir SIDNEY MEDOWS, and the Cavaliere ROSSERMINI, at Piſa, author of the *Cavallo Perfetto*. Begin by trotting, then galloping the horſe properly, bent inwards by a ſtrap tied from the ſide ring on the *caveſſon* to the ring on the pad. (*Plate* 4.) To the head-ſtall of the longe, a ſtrap and buckle under the throat is very uſeful to prevent the ſide part of it from chafing againſt the eye, which it is very apt to do, when the bending ſtrap is uſed, and drawn at all tight. Do this for a little while

while only at a time. If the horſe leans on the ſtrap which is tied to bend him, take off the *caveſſon*, and uſe in its ſtead one of the long ſtrings which will be mentioned and explained a little further on, coming firſt from the ring on the pad, and from thence through the eye of the ſnaffle; (*Plate* 5.) and alſo, if the horſe's head is low, through the ring on the head-ſtall, and from thence through the ring on the pad, (*Plate* 6.) into the hand of the perſon on foot, who muſt humour it, yielding and taking it up occaſionally, which will prevent the horſe's leaning, and make him light. (*Plate* 6.) The long ſtring, thus uſed, will do very well alone, without the ſtrap, when the horſe is accuſtomed to bend, and to trot determined round the perſon who ſtands in the center, and holds the long ſtring. After horſes have been a little accuſtomed to be bent with a ſtrap at the longe, they will very ſoon longe themſelves, as it were; that is to ſay, that bent with the ſtrap, they will go very well without any longe; and indeed, horſes may be brought, with patience and gentleneſs, to work very well ſo on almoſt all leſſons in hand. Next begin the *epaule en dedans*, and after that, the head to the wall, the croup to the wall, piaffing, backing, &c. on all figures, by degrees. I have obſerved, that moſt horſes generally go the head to the wall more cordially at

firſt, than they do the croup to the wall. Working in hand is, if I may be allowed the expreſſion, a kind of driving. In explaining the method of working in hand, we will uſe the right all the way through. Two people on foot ſhould be employed about it; one indeed may do, and well, if it is a handy perſon, but two are much better at firſt: one of theſe people holds a long ſtring, and in ſome leſſons two long ſtrings, fixed, as ſhall be preſently explained, and a *chambriere*, ſtanding at ſome diſtance from the horſe: the other perſon ſtands near the horſe, holding the reins of the ſnaffle, and a hand whip, to keep the horſe off from him, when neceſſary. Girt a pad, with a crupper to it, upon the horſe: the pad muſt have a large ring in the center upon the top of it, and, about four inches lower down on each ſide, a ſmaller one. On the top of the pad, a little forwarder than the great ring, there muſt be a ſmall ſtrap, and buckle, which ſerve to buckle in the ſnaffle reins, and to prevent their floating about, and the horſe entangling his legs in them, in the longe. Horſes muſt never be worked in hand with any thing in their mouths, but a large, thick, plain, running ſnaffle: a bridle is too tickliſh, and would ſpoil the horſe's mouth, unleſs it be in the hands of a very able maſter indeed; for, in working in hand, it is next to impoſſible

to

to be ſufficiently gentle, and delicate with it. The eyes of the ſnaffle ſhould be large, and on the head-ſtall, about the height of the horſe's eye, ſhould be fixed a ring on each ſide. The perſon with the *chambriere* holds a long ſtring, about eighteen feet long, (ſo as to be out of the reach of the horſe's heels) which muſt be ſmooth, of a proper thickneſs, and not ſtick, but run free. This ſtring, in the *epaule en dedans*, (*Plate* 7.) to the right, is buckled to the right hand ſmall ring on the pad, where the reins of the running ſnaffle are firſt fixed; from thence it paſſes through the right eye of the ſnaffle, and from that to the right hand ſmall ring on the head-ſtall, and through the large ring on the top of the pad, into the hand of the perſon who holds the *chambriere*, and who, by means of this ſtring, bends the horſe to the right, and brings in his ſhoulder; following him on his right ſide, and tightening and looſening the ſtring, as he finds it neceſſary. If the horſe's fore-hand is high, and well placed, it will not be neceſſary to paſs the ſtring through the ring upon the head-ſtall: at the ſame time, another perſon ſtanding near the horſe, the ſnaffle reins ſeparated, and the right one tied looſe on the right ſide, leads him on with the left rein of the ſnaffle in his hand, walking near

his

his head, and taking care to keep the ſhoulders in their proper place, and not to take off from the bend to the right, which is occaſioned by the ſtring in the other perſon's hand, who will find it moſt convenient, when working on this leſſon to the right, to hold the ſtring in his right hand, and the *chambriere* in his left, and ſo *vice verſâ*. Theſe he muſt make uſe of, and keep himſelf more or leſs upon the flank, center, or rear of the horſe, as he finds neceſſary. In the changes from right to left, in the *epaule en dedans*, the perſon neareſt the horſe muſt be quick in getting on the horſe's left ſide; and the perſon with the *chambriere* muſt do the ſame; the former coming round by the horſe's head before him, and the latter round by his croup behind him; and ſo *vice verſâ* to the left. In the head, and in the croup, to the wall, both the men are already properly placed for the changes. In this leſſon of the *epaule en dedans*, in hand, when a horſe is very clumſy, heavy in hand, ſtiff, headſtrong, vicious, or apt to ſtrike with his fore feet, or to rear or kick out behind, a ſtick, or pole, is very uſeful; the ſtick, (about ſeven feet long) is faſtened by a ſtrap and buckle through the eye of the ſnaffle, where the reins paſs: a man places himſelf, at a certain diſtance, on the ſide of the horſe's head,

head, going before him over the ground to be worked upon, and holds the ſtick at arm's length, having tied it ſo, as to leave it room to play, as he draws it gently backwards and forwards to refreſh and enliven the mouth. The other man holds a long rein, and the *chambriere*, as repreſented in *Plate* 7. Like the pillars, this leſſon is excellent, or bad, according to the hands it is in. I have known a horſe's jaw broke, and his tongue cut in two by it, and therefore it muſt be uſed in the moſt ſkilful and temperate manner, or not at all: it is uſeful in raiſing horſe's heads; of thoſe, particularly, who are apt to get their heads down, or to kick in piaffing on forwards, &c. Almoſt any leſſons may be done by the help of this pole.

To work in hand, the head and the croup, to the wall, (*Plate* 8.) two ſtrings fixed, as above deſcribed, (only that they muſt not come at all through the large ring on the pad, but from the ſmall rings on the head-ſtall, immediately into the hand of the perſon who holds the *chambriere*) muſt be uſed, one on each ſide: one ſtring, indeed, might do; the right one, in working to the right, and

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ſo *vice verſâ*: but two are much better, and often neceſſary, to help to keep the horſe in a proper poſition. Paſſing the ſtrings through the rings on the head-ſtall, is not neceſſary, when the horſe carries his fore-hand high, and well; and when they do paſs through them, great care muſt be taken, by a gentle uſe of them, that they do not gag the horſe: theſe two ſtrings muſt be buckled together, and meet in the hand of the perſon who holds the *chambriere*, and who is on the left ſide of the horſe: the ſnaffle reins too muſt be joined, and the perſon near the horſe, who holds them, muſt alſo be on the left ſide of him, and near his ſhoulder, holding the right rein of the ſnaffle the ſhorteſt, to bend him that way, (as does alſo the right ſtring kept the tighteſt in the other perſon's hand) and making uſe alſo of the left rein, when neceſſary, to keep the horſe in a proper poſition, and to guide him occaſionally, as if he was upon him: and never ſo, as to take away from the bend. The leſſon of the head, or croupe, to the wall, in hand, is often done better, when the man who follows, and holds the *chambriere*, has no long reins, or only one long rein, unleſs the horſe is very aukward, refractory, or playful; for one of the long

reins

reins is apt to get into the way of the man, who is nearer to the horſe. When only one long rein is uſed, it will be, of courſe, the right hand one, to the right, and ſo *vice verſâ*. And indeed, in other leſſons in hand, theſe long reins are no longer neceſſary, when the horſe is grown handy; provided the man nearer to him has a feeling, ſenſible, good hand, and perfectly knows what he is about. On the head or croup to the wall, in hand, it is a good way, at firſt, to have a man, holding a long ſtring buckled ſimply to the eye of the ſnaffle, go before the horſe, leading him, as it were, along the wall. Horſes will, with care and patience, not be very long before they work well in hand; though, indeed, never ſo truly, or delicately, as under a good rider. Horſes worked well in hand look particularly well in coming up the middle, and backing there on the piaffer, as alſo in the piaffer, in one place, both bent, (*Plate* 9.) and ſtraight, animated properly, and kept in a good poſition, their mouths being properly played with, and humoured. When horſes become free, and familiar with this method of working them in hand, it ſhould be done by degrees on all paces, faſt, and ſlow, but always with-

out noiſe, hurry, or confuſion. Nothing determines them better than working them in hand, when it is well done. As the want of great accuracy, and delicacy is, from the great numbers, in ſome meaſure unavoidable in military ſchools, it is not amiſs to teach troop horſes a little their leſſons in hand, before the men do them on their backs. One of theſe ſtrings may be uſed by the perſon who holds the *chambriere* on foot, when the horſe is mounted; and it is a good method to do ſo, ſometimes, on all leſſons, and on all figures. This ſtring faſtened, as in the *epaule en dedans*, only that it goes immediately from the eye of the ſnaffle into the hand of the perſon on foot, who muſt ſtand in the center of the circle, helps the perſon upon the horſe in the longe very much to bend him, as it does indeed in all other leſſons. When the horſe has a rider on him, only one ſtring is neceſſary to be held by the perſon on foot. In the head to the wall, croup to the wall, piaffing, &c. &c. it muſt be ſhifted (for example, in the head to the wall, &c. &c. to the right) under the horſe's jaw, from through the right eye of the ſnaffle, into the hand of the perſon on foot, who is on the left of the horſe; for it need not paſs through the ſmall ring on the head-ſtall

of

of the ſnaffle; the man upon the horſe being the proper perſon to keep the horſe's head up. It is ſometimes expedient to paſs the ſtring over the horſe's neck under the rider's hand, inſtead of under the horſe's jaw. It muſt be fixed, in the firſt place, like a running ſnaffle, to the ſkirts of the ſaddle, from whence it goes, as above-mentioned, through the eye of the ſnaffle into the hand of the perſon on foot, after having paſſed under the horſe's jaw. To piaffer too without any rider, on ſquare, and all other figures, advancing gently, and well into the corners, is a very good leſſon. One man muſt ſtand exactly before the horſe, with his face to him, holding the two eyes of the ſnaffle, and keep the horſe advancing gently, by going backwards himſelf. The man with the *chambriere* muſt ſtand behind the horſe, and animate him, or not, as he finds neceſſary. Backing the horſe ſo too ſometimes is uſeful: that may alſo be done on all figures. The degree of vivacity, or dulneſs in the horſe, muſt determine how the man with the *chambriere* is to act, and where he is to place himſelf, when the horſe is backing. A horſe when well taught may be worked, and it is then the beſt way, by a ſingle man with long reins, and a *chambriere*, without any other per-

ſon to aſſiſt. (*Plate* 10.) All airs in hand are to be worked ſo, whenever the animal is become ſupple and obedient.

Working in hand is very particularly uſeful in Military Equitation, becauſe it ſpares the horſe the fatigue of any weight upon him; and the want of a proper allowance of corn, to enable horſes to go through the work with vigour, is a general army complaint, almoſt in all European ſervices. When it is well done, it has a maſterly, active appearance, and is always very uſeful in ſuppling and determining horſes; but, paſt all doubt, a good rider mounted, who feels every motion of the horſe, muſt act with more preciſion, delicacy, and exactneſs.

Great part of what has been ſaid here, of working in hand, belongs properly to other chapters, but I was unwilling to divide the ſubject, and have therefore placed here what I had to mention about it.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

Of the head to the wall, and of the croup to the wall.

THIS leſſon ſhould be practiſed immediately after that of the *epaule en dedans*, in order to place the horſe properly the way he goes, &c. The difference between the head to the wall, and the croup to the wall, conſiſts in this: in the former, the fore-parts are more remote from the center, and go over more ground; in the latter, the hinder-parts are more remote from the center, and conſequently go over more ground: in both, as likewiſe in all other leſſons, (thoſe done in backing only excepted) the ſhoulders muſt go firſt. In riding-houſes, the head to the wall is the eaſier leſſon of the two, at firſt, the line to be worked upon being marked by the wall, which is not far from the horſe's head. All leſſons ought to be frequently varied, to prevent *routine*.

The motion of the legs in the leſſon we are ſpeaking of, to the right, is the ſame as that of the *epaule en dedans* to the left, and ſo *vice verſâ*; but the head is always bent and

and turned differently: in the *epaule en dedans*, the horſe looks the contrary way to that which he goes; in this he looks the way he is going.

In the beginning, very little bend muſt be required; demanding too much at once would perplex the horſe, and make him defend himſelf: it is to be augmented by degrees. If the horſe abſolutely refuſes to obey, it is moſt probably a ſign that either he or his rider has not been ſufficiently prepared by previous leſſons. It may happen, that weakneſs, or a hurt in ſome part of the body, or ſometimes temper, though ſeldom, (in the horſe I mean) may be the cauſe of the horſe's defending himſelf: 'tis the rider's buſineſs to find out from whence the obſtacle ariſes, and to remove it; and if he finds it to be from the firſt mentioned cauſe, the previous leſſons muſt be reſumed again for ſome time; if from the ſecond, proper remedies muſt be applied; and if from the laſt cauſe, when all fair means that can be tried, have failed, proper corrections, with coolneſs and judgment, muſt be uſed.

In practiſing this leſſon to the right, bend the horſe to the right with the right rein, helping the left leg over the right,

right, (at the ſame time when the right leg is juſt come to the ground) with the left rein croſſed towards the right, and keeping the right ſhoulder back with the right rein towards your body, in order to facilitate the left leg's croſſing over the right; and ſo *vice verſâ* to the left, each rein helping the other by their properly-mixed effects. In working to the right, the rider's left leg helps the hinder parts on to the right, and his right leg ſtops them, if they get too much ſo; and ſo *vice verſâ* to the left; but neither ought to be uſed, 'till the hand, being employed, (as has before been explained) in a proper manner, has failed, or finds, that a greater force is neceſſary to bring what is required about, than it can effect alone; for the legs ſhould not only be correſponding with the hand, but alſo ſubſervient to it; and all unneceſſary aids, as well as all force, ought always to be avoided as much as poſſible. In firſt beginning to teach this leſſon, the croup muſt be but little conſtrained; as the horſe grows more ſupple, engage it more by degrees.

In the execution of all leſſons, the equilibre of the rider's body is of great uſe, eaſe and help to the horſe: it ought

ought always to go with and accompany every motion of the animal; when to the right, to the right; and when to the left, to the left; if it does not, it is a very great hinderance to the horſe's going.

This leſſon is perpetually of ſervice; for example, in all openings and cloſings of files: and though it be chiefly employed on ſtraight lines, nevertheleſs it muſt be practiſed, advancing, retreating, turning, &c. as it may be of eſſential uſe almoſt in all caſes whatever: it muſt be practiſed too in all paces, very faſt as well as very ſlow, but of courſe gently at firſt; and changes alſo from one hand to the other muſt frequently be made on two piſtes. 'Tis natural to imagine, that ſome horſes, as well as ſome men, will be found more or leſs intelligent, active, vigorous, and ſupple, than others; and accordingly more or leſs is to be demanded and expected from them. This and all other leſſons are to be performed with or without a longe, as may be found needful.

Upon all horſes, in every leſſon and action, it muſt be obſerved, that there is no horſe but has his own peculiar *appui* or degree of bearing, and alſo a ſenſibility of mouth,

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as likewiſe a rate of his own, which it is abſolutely neceſſary for the rider to diſcover and make himſelf acquainted with. A bad rider always takes off at leaſt the delicacy of both, if not abſolutely deſtroys it, which is generally the caſe. The horſe will inform his rider when he has got his proper bearing in the mouth, by playing pleaſantly and ſteadily with his bit, and by the ſpray about his chaps. A delicate and good hand will not only always preſerve a light *appui*, or bearing in its ſenſibility, but alſo of a heavy one, whether naturally ſo or acquired, make a light one. The lighter this *appui* can be made, the better; but the rider's hand muſt correſpond with it: if it does not, the more the horſe is properly prepared, ſo much the worſe for the rider. Inſtances of this inconvenience of the beſt of *appui*'s, when the rider is not equally taught with the horſe, may be ſeen every day in ſome gentlemen, who try to get their horſes bitted, as they call it, (which now and then, though very rarely, they get done to ſome degree) without being ſuitably prepared themſelves for riding them: the conſequence of which is, that they ride in danger of breaking their necks: 'till at length, after much hauling about, and by the joint inſenſibility and ig-

norance of themſelves and their grooms, the poor animals gradually become mere ſenſeleſs, unfeeling poſts, and thereby grow, what they call, ſettled, and pleaſant; that is to ſay, in reality, that they are grown as inſenſible as their riders, who, becauſe they are void of feeling, and are not firm, muſt either hold by the bridle, or fall. One perpetually hears people ſay, they love a horſe, who will let them bear a little on his mouth. Depend upon it, thoſe people are not only ignorant, and unfeeling, but alſo very unfirm in their ſeat; for if they were not, they could not poſſibly find either uſe, or eaſe, in bearing a dead weight on their horſes mouths. To help a horſe every now and then, properly, is a very different, and a very uſeful thing. When the proper *appui* is found, and made of courſe as light as poſſible, it muſt not be kept dully fixed without any variation, but be played with; otherwiſe one equally continued tenſion of reins, though not a violent one, would render both the rider's hand, and the horſe's mouth very dull. The ſlighteſt, and frequent giving, and taking is therefore neceſſary to keep both perfect.

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Whatever pace or degree of quickneſs you work in, (be it ever ſo faſt, or ever ſo ſlow) it muſt be cadenced; time is as neceſſary for an horſeman, as for a muſician.

Every ſoldier muſt be very well inſtructed in this leſſon of the head and of the tail to the wall: ſcarce any manœuvre can be well performed without it. In cloſing and opening of files, it is almoſt every moment wanted. Few regimental riding-maſters either practiſe it right, teach it right, or know it right, but act by force only: and make the horſe look the wrong way. It is a great detriment to the ſervice, that ſo few of the teachers are inſtructed on true and uſeful principles of horſemanſhip. This leſſon of the head, or croup to the wall, &c. and all others, may be done on any pace; but, for the reaſons given at the end of the ſixth chapter, I ſhall give no very full inſtructions for them on a gallop here, as the nature of army riding hardly permits ſoldiers to be taught ſo far with exactneſs. If a horſe is well taught on ever ſo ſlow a pace, he may, by degrees, without difficulty, be taught to do the ſame leſſon with any degree of velocity. When he does it on a gallop, the rider muſt be quiet, and exact in the changes, and

be then careful to ſtop the horſe's leg, with which he leads, juſt at the time when it is moſt forward, before it comes to the ground, by means of a ſlight tenſion of the rein on the ſame ſide, which will of courſe make the other leg go forward, and lead; and, that the horſe may change his hinder leg at the ſame time, which is abſolutely neceſſary, the rider muſt at the ſame time croſs over his hand, (to the left, for example, in changing from the left to the right) replacing it properly the moment the horſe has changed both before and behind, which muſt be done at the ſame time.

CHAP. V.

The Trot.

THE three different kinds of trot, the extended, the ſupple, and the even, or equal, *(le determinè le deliè, & l'uni)* are explained ſo wonderfully maſterly, and elegantly, in Monſieur BOURGELAT's *Nouveau Newcaſtle*, that I can not omit giving here the chapter on trots of ſo truly admirable a maſter, for which I am obliged to Mr. BERENGER's tranſlation of that excellent work.

" When a horſe trots, his legs are in this poſition, two in the air, and two upon the ground, at the ſame time croſswiſe; that is to ſay, the near foot before, and the off foot behind are off the ground, and the other two upon it, and ſo alternately of the other two. This action of his legs is the ſame as when he walks, except that in the trot his motions are more quick. All writers, both ancient and modern, have conſtantly aſſerted the trot to be the foundation of every leſſon you can teach a horſe: there

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are none, likewiſe, who have not thought proper to give general rules upon this ſubject, but none have been exact enough to deſcend into a detail of particular rules, and to diſtinguiſh ſuch caſes as are different, and admit of exceptions, though ſuch often are found from the different make and tempers of horſes, as they happen to be more or leſs ſuited to what they are deſtined; ſo that, by following their general maxims, many horſes have been ſpoiled, and made heavy and aukward, inſtead of becoming ſupple and active, and as much miſchief has been occaſioned by adopting their principles, although juſt, as if they had been ſuggeſted by ignorance itſelf. Three qualities are eſſentially neceſſary to make the trot uſeful. It ought to be extended, ſupple, and even, or equal. Theſe three qualities are related to, and mutually depend upon each other; in effect, you cannot paſs to the ſupple trot, without having firſt worked upon the extended trot; and you can never arrive at the even and equal trot, without having firſt practiſed the ſupple. I mean by the extended, that trot, in which the horſe trots out without retaining himſelf, being quite ſtrait, and going directly forwards; this conſequently is the kind of trot with which you muſt begin;

begin; for before any thing elſe ſhould be thought of, the horſe ſhould be taught to embrace, and cover his ground readily, and without fear. The trot however may be extended without being ſupple, for the horſe may go directly forward, and yet not have that eaſe, and ſuppleneſs of limb, which diſtinguiſhes, and characteriſes the ſupple. I define the ſupple trot to be that, in which the horſe at every motion that he makes, bends and plays all his joints, that is to ſay, thoſe of his ſhoulders, his knees, and feet, which no colts or raw horſes can execute, who have not had their limbs ſuppled by exerciſe, and who generally trot with a ſurprizing ſtiffneſs, and aukwardneſs, without the leaſt ſpring or play in their joints. The even or equal trot, is that wherein the horſe makes all his limbs and joints move ſo equally, and exactly, that his legs never cover more ground one than the other, nor at one time more than another. To do this, the horſe muſt of neceſſity unite and collect all his ſtrength, and, if I may be allowed the expreſſion, diſtribute it equally through all his joints. To go from the extended trot to the ſupple, you muſt gently, and by degrees hold in your horſe, and when by exerciſe he has attained ſufficient eaſe and ſuppleneſs

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to manage his limbs readily, you muſt inſenſibly hold him in ſtill more and more, and by degrees you will lead him to the equal trot. The trot is the firſt exerciſe to which a horſe is put; this is a neceſſary leſſon, but, if given unſkilfully, it loſes its end, and even does harm. Horſes of a hot, and fretful temper, have generally too great a diſpoſition to the extended trot; never abandon theſe horſes to their will, hold them in, pacify them, moderate their motions by retaining them judiciouſly; their limbs will grow ſupple, and they will acquire at the ſame time that union and equality which is ſo eſſentially neceſſary. If you have a horſe that is heavy, conſider if this heavineſs, or ſtiffneſs of his ſhoulders, or legs, is owing to a want of ſtrength, or of ſuppleneſs; whether it proceeds from his having been exerciſed unſkilfully, too much, or too little. If he is heavy, becauſe the motions of his legs and ſhoulders are naturally cold, and ſluggiſh, though at the ſame time his limbs are good, and his ſtrength is only confined, and ſhut up, if I may ſo ſay, a moderate, but continual exerciſe of the trot will open and ſupple his joints, and render the action of his ſhoulders and legs more free, and bold; hold him in the hand, and ſupport him

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in his trot, but take care to do it ſo as not to check, or ſlacken his pace; aid him, and drive him forward while you ſupport him; remember at the ſame time, that if he is loaded with a great head, the continuation of the trot will make his *appui* hard and dull, becauſe he will by this means abandon himſelf ſtill more, and weigh upon the hand. All horſes that are inclined to be *ramingue*, that is to ſay, to retain themſelves, and to reſiſt by ſo doing, ſhould be kept to the extended trot. Every horſe, who has a tendency to be *ramingue*, is naturally diſpoſed to unite himſelf, and collect all his ſtrength; your only way with ſuch horſes is to force them forward; in the inſtant that he obeys, and goes freely on, retain him a little, yield your hand immediately after, and you will find ſoon that the horſe of himſelf will bend his joints, and go united and equally. A horſe of a ſluggiſh and cold diſpoſition, which has nevertheleſs ſtrength and bottom, ſhould likewiſe be put to the extended trot. As he grows animated, and begins to go free, keep him together by little and little, in order to lead him inſenſibly to the ſupple trot: but if while you keep him together, you perceive that he ſlackens his action, and retains himſelf, give him the aids briſkly,

and puſh him forward, keeping him nevertheleſs gently in hand; by this means he will be taught to trot freely, and equally at the ſame time. If a horſe of a cold, and ſluggiſh temper, is weak in his legs, and reins, you muſt manage him cautiouſly in working him in the trot, otherwiſe you will enervate, and ſpoil him. Beſides, in order to make the moſt of a horſe who is not ſtrong, endeavour to give him wind, by working him ſlowly, and at intervals, and by encreaſing the vigour of his exerciſe by degrees; for you muſt remember, that you ought always to diſmiſs your horſe before he is ſpent, and overcome by fatigue; never puſh your leſſons too far, in hopes of ſuppling your horſe's limbs by the trot, inſtead of this you will falſify, and harden his *appui*, which is a caſe that happens but too frequently. Farther, it is of importance to remark, that you ought at no time, neither in the extended, ſupple, or equal trot, to confine your horſe in the hand, in expectation of raiſing him, and fixing his head in a proper place. If his *appui* be full in hand, and the action of his trot ſhould be checked, and reſtrained by the power of the bridle, his bars would very ſoon grow callous, and his mouth be hardened,

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and dead; if, on the contrary, he has a fine, and ſenſible mouth, this very reſtraint would offend, and make him uneaſy; you muſt endeavour then, as has already been ſaid, to give him by degrees, and inſenſibly, the true and juſt *appui*, to place his head, and form his mouth by ſtops, and half-ſtops, by ſometimes moderating and reſtraining him, with a gentle, and light hand, and yielding it to him immediately again, and by ſometimes letting him trot without feeling the bridle at all. There is a difference between horſes who are heavy in the hand, and ſuch as endeavour to force it: the firſt ſort lean, and throw all their weight upon the hand, either as they happen to be weak, or too heavy, and clumſy in their foreparts, or from having their mouths too fleſhy and groſs, and conſequently dull and inſenſible: the ſecond pull againſt the hand, becauſe their bars are hard, lean, and generally round: the firſt may be brought to go equal, and upon their haunches, by means of the trot, and ſlow gallop; and the other may be made light and active by art, and by ſettling them well in their trot, which will alſo give them ſtrength and vigour. Horſes of the firſt ſort are generally ſluggiſh; the other kind are, for the moſt

part, impatient, and diſobedient, and upon that very account more dangerous, and incorrigible. The only proof, or rather the moſt certain ſign of your horſe's trotting well, is, that when he is in his trot, and you begin to preſs him a little, he offers to gallop. After having trotted your horſe ſufficiently upon a ſtrait line, or directly forwards, work him upon circles, but before you put him to this, walk him gently round the circle, that he may apprehend and know the ground he is to go over. This being done, work him in the trot. A horſe that is loaded before, and heavily made, will find more pains and difficulty in uniting his ſtrength, in order to be able to turn, than in going ſtrait forward. The action of turning tries the ſtrength of his reins, and employs his memory and attention; therefore let one part of your leſſons be to trot them ſtrait forward: finiſh them in the ſame manner, obſerving that the intervals between the ſtops (which you ſhould make very often) be long, or ſhort, as you judge neceſſary. I ſay, you ſhould make frequent ſtops, for they often ſerve as a correction to horſes that abandon themſelves, force the hand, or bear too much upon it in their trot. There are ſome horſes who are ſupple in

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their ſhoulders, but who nevertheleſs abandon themſelves, this fault is occaſioned by the rider's having often held his bridle hand too tight in working them upon large circles; to remedy this, trot them upon one line or tread, and very large; ſtop them often, keeping back your body and outward leg, in order to make them bend and play their haunches. The principal effects then of the trot are to make a horſe light, and active, and to give him a juſt *appui*. In reality, in this action he is always ſupported on one ſide by one of his fore legs, and on the other by one of his hind legs: now the fore and hind parts being equally ſupported croſswiſe, the rider cannot fail of ſuppling, and looſening his limbs, and fixing his head; but if the trot diſpoſes, and prepares the ſpirits and motions of a ſinewy and active horſe for the juſteſt leſſons, if it calls out and unfolds the powers, and ſtrength of the animal, which before were buried, and ſhut up, if I may uſe the expreſſion, in the ſtiffneſs of his joints and limbs; if this firſt exerciſe, to which you put your horſe, is the foundation of all the different airs, and maneges, it ought to be given in proportion to the ſtrength and vigour of the horſe. To judge of this, you muſt go farther than mere out-

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ward appearances. A horſe may be but weak in the reins, and yet execute ſome air, and accompany it with vigour, as long as his ſtrength is united and entire; but if he becomes diſunited, by having been worked beyond his ability in the trot, he will then faulter in his air, and perform it without vigour or grace. There are alſo ſome horſes who are very ſtrong in the loins, but who are weak in their limbs; theſe are apt to retain themſelves, they bend, and ſink in their trot, and go as if they were afraid of hurting their ſhoulders, their legs or feet. This irreſolution proceeds only from a natural ſenſe they have of their weakneſs. This kind of horſes ſhould not be too much exerciſed in the trot, nor have ſharp correction; their ſhoulders, legs, or hocks, would be weakened and injured; ſo that learning in a little time to hang back, and abandon themſelves on the *appui*, they would never be able to furniſh any air with vigour, and juſtneſs. Let every leſſon then be well weighed; the only method by which ſucceſs can be inſured, is the diſcretion you ſhall uſe in giving them in proportion to the ſtrength of the horſe, and from your ſagacity in deciding upon what air or manege is moſt proper for him, to which you muſt be directed by obſerving which ſeems moſt ſuited to his inclination and capacity.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

The method of reining back---and of moving forwards immediately after---of piaffing---of pillars, &c.---of moving pillars, &c.

SOMETHING having already been ſaid, in the chapter of ſuppling, &c. upon the ſubject of reining back, there will not be occaſion to dwell much upon it here, as the reader may have recourſe to that chapter. Horſes, particularly ſuch as are never put in the pillars, nor taught to piaffe, ſhould be reined back a good deal, ſometimes ſlow, ſometimes faſt, and always without confuſion, both in hand, and when rode. Never finiſh your work by reining back, eſpecially with horſes that have any diſpoſition towards retaining themſelves; but always move them forwards, and a little upon the haunches alſo after it, before you diſmount; unleſs they retain themſelves very much indeed, in which caſe nothing at all muſt be demanded from the haunches, but, quite the contrary, they muſt immediately be trotted hard out. This leſſon of reining back,

back, and piaffing, is excellent to conclude with, and puts a horſe well and properly on the haunches: the head and fore-parts muſt be kept high, and free, for any confinement there deſtroys action. To bend the horſes ſometimes in doing it, is a good leſſon. It may be done, according as horſes are more or leſs ſuppled, either going forwards, backing, or in the ſame place: if 'tis done well advancing, or at moſt, on the ſame ſpot, it is full ſufficient for a ſoldier's horſe: for to piaffe in backing, is rather too much to be expected in the hurry, which cannot but attend ſuch numbers both of men and horſes, as muſt be taught together in regiments. This leſſon muſt never be attempted at all, 'till horſes are very well ſuppled, and ſomewhat accuſtomed to be put together; otherwiſe it will have very bad conſequences, and create reſtiveneſs: infallibly ſo, if not practiſed with the utmoſt exactneſs and delicacy; and principally with horſes, that have the leaſt tendency to retain, or to defend themſelves. If they refuſe to back, and ſtand motionleſs, the rider's legs muſt be approached with the greateſt gentleneſs to the horſe's ſides; at the ſame time as the hand is acting on the reins to ſolicit the horſe's backing. This ſeldom fails of procuring

curing the deſired effect, by raiſing one of the horſe's fore legs, which being in the air, has no weight upon it, and is conſequently very eaſily brought backwards by a ſmall degree of tenſion in the reins. When this leſſon of piaffing is well performed, it is very noble, and uſeful, and has a pleaſing air; it is an excellent one to begin teaching ſcholars with. In regiments, at their firſt being raiſed, when all horſes are brought in young and raw, there can of courſe be no horſes ready prepared in it for this purpoſe; but a litle time and diligence remedies this inconvenience.

The leſſon, we are ſpeaking of, is particularly ſerviceable in the pillars, for placing ſcholars well at firſt. Very few regimental riding-houſes have pillars, and I muſt ſay, that it is fortunate they have not; for though, when properly made uſe of with ſkill, they are one of the greateſt and beſt diſcoveries in horſemanſhip, they muſt be allowed to be very dangerous and pernicious, when they are not under the direction of a very knowing perſon. Upon the whole, however highly I approve of pillars, I would on no account admit of any, unleſs conſtantly under the eye and attention of a very intelligent teacher; which is a thing

ſo difficult to be found in regiments, that I think pillars are better baniſhed from amongſt them, and therefore ſhall ſay no more here of what I eſteem nevertheleſs ſo much. As for the ſingle pillar, uſed in the manner it formerly was, it is a very uſeleſs and ridiculous thing; and being, as I hope and believe, univerſally laid aſide, I think it not worth making further mention of here. Moving pillars are exempt from thoſe inconveniences which attend fixed ones, and I therefore recommend them for army riding. By moving pillars, I underſtand a horſe held by a rein on each ſide, by a man on each ſide of him: another perſon with a *chambriere* follows, animates, or ſooths him, as he finds neceſſary, and makes him piaffe backwards, or forwards, with, or without long reins, as is found expedient. When the long reins, or ſtrings are uſed, or rather the long ſtring or rein, (for one is generally ſufficient) it muſt be fixed on the ſide the horſe is to be bent: this ſtring is fixed to the ſaddle, and goes through the eye of the ſnaffle, and alſo through a ring on the head-ſtall, if the horſe is apt to get his head low: one man, beſides the one who holds the *chambriere*, is ſufficient in this caſe: the horſe is bent to the right, or left, or kept wholly ſtrait. This me-

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thod is particularly uſeful for horſes whoſe action of their hinder legs is confined, and wants liberty: the ſame rule will hold good for all horſes ſo circumſtanced in all they do; for they ſhould always be worked boldly out on large ſcales, and never confined to ſmall figures. A horſe looks remarkably well in this attitude, if thoſe who hold him have light hands, and keep his head high: they ſhould each of them have a ſwitch, to help them to keep the horſe ſtraight, in caſe of neceſſity. This leſſon may be very well done by one man alone, with long reins *(as in Plate* 10.)

It would ſcarce be poſſible (neither is it indeed neceſſary) to teach the more refined and difficult parts of horſemanſhip to all the different kinds, and diſpoſitions, both of men and horſes, which are in all regiments; or to find the time and attention requiſite for it to ſuch numbers; but I yet hope ſome proper inſtitution will be formed, to make good riding-maſters, farriers, ſadlers, and gun-ſmiths, and every thing elſe neceſſary for the army, upon a good, and proper footing: they are abſolutely neceſſary, and ſhould be properly and equally divided through the regiment, in the ſquadrons and troops. There ſhould be one riding-maſter

in chief, with a ſufficient number of under ones under him, and formed by him: he ſhould inſpect the work of the others very frequently, and give leſſons by turns to the whole regiment, going about from one quarter to another, if the regiment is ſeparated: he ſhould break too the officers horſes, or rather teach them to do it themſelves, who, I am ſorry to ſay it, ſtand at preſent, in general, in the greateſt need of inſtructions,---no people more: they ſhould, therefore, and for the ſake of creating emulation too in the men by their example, always attend the riding-maſter regularly two or three times a week, at leaſt. I muſt urge the neceſſity of forming by reading, and ſerious ſtudy, as well as by much conſtant practice, proper riding-maſters for the army; though I am thoroughly apprized, as the celebrated Mr. Bourgelat obſerves, that an ill-founded prejudice partially directs the judgment of the greater part of thoſe people, who call themſelves connoiſſeurs. I know full well that they ſuppoſe that practice alone can inſure perfection, and that in their arguments in favour of this their deplorable ſyſtem, they reject with ſcorn all books, and authors: but Equitation is confeſſedly a ſcience; every ſcience is founded upon principles, and theory

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muſt indiſpenſably be neceſſary, becauſe what is truly juſt and beautiful can not depend upon chance. What indeed is to be expected from a man, who has no other guide than a long continued practice, and who muſt of neceſſity labour under very great uncertainties! Incapable of accounting rationally for what he does, it muſt be impoſſible for him to enlighten me, or communicate to me the knowledge which he fancies himſelf poſſeſſed of. How then can I look upon ſuch a man as a maſter? On the other hand, what advantages may I not obtain from the inſtructions of a perſon, whom theory enables to comprehend and feel the effects of his ſlighteſt operations, and who can explain to me ſuch principles, as an age of conſtant practice only could never put me into a way of acquiring? Equitation does, to be ſure, require alſo a conſtant, and an aſſiduous exerciſe. Habit, and continual practice will go a great way in all exerciſes, which depend on the mechaniſm of the body, but, unleſs this mechaniſm is properly fixed, and ſupported on the ſolid baſis of theory, errors will be the inevitable conſequence. In working a horſe, a principal object ſhould be to exerciſe the genius, and memory of the animal, as well as his body. You

ſhould

ſhould endeavour to diſcover his natural inclination, and to get a thorough knowledge of his abilities, in order to take advantage in future of that knowledge. Without the help of lights derived from juſt principles, it is morally impoſſible that a horſeman ſhould make uſe of his reaſon upon all occaſions, or be able to find out, with care and attention, whatever may conduct him to the end and object of his hopes, deſires, and undertakings; becauſe, in few words, there is an abſolute neceſſity of ſome method for improving the natural diſpoſition of the animal, which is in ſome caſes defective and intractable. The conſequences of the falſe, and prejudicial ſyſtem, which I am oppoſing, juſtify my aſſertions. The knowledge of a horſe is vulgarly thought ſo familiar, and the means of dreſſing him ſo general, and ſo common, that you can hardly meet with a man, who does not flatter himſelf, that he has ſucceeded in both points; and while maſters, who ſacrifice every hour of their life to attain knowledge, ſtill find themſelves immerged in darkneſs and obſcurity, men the moſt uninformed imagine, that they have attained the ſummit of perfection, and in conſequence thereof ſuppreſs the leaſt inclination of learning even the firſt elements.

A blind, and boundleſs preſumption is the characteriſtic of ignorance; the fruits of long ſtudy, and application amount to a diſcovery of innumerable freſh difficulties, at the ſight of which a diligent man, very far from over-rating his own merit, redoubles his efforts in purſuit of further knowledge.

CHAP.

CHAP. VII.

The method of teaching horſes to ſtand fire, noiſes, alarms, ſights, &c.---of preventing their lying down in the water--to ſtand quiet to be ſhot off from---to go over rough and bad ground ---to leap hedges, gates, ditches, &c. ſtanding and flying--- to diſregard dead horſes---to ſwim, &c.

IN order to make horſes ſtand fire, the ſound of drums, and all ſorts of different noiſes, you muſt uſe them to it by degrees in the ſtable at feeding-time; and inſtead of being frightened at it, they will ſoon come to like it, as a ſignal for eating.

With regard to ſuch horſes as are afraid of burning objects, begin by keeping them ſtill at a certain diſtance from ſome lighted ſtraw: careſs the horſe, and in proportion as his fright diminiſhes, approach gradually the burning ſtraw very gently, and increaſe the ſize of it. By this means he will very quickly be brought to be ſo familiar with it, as to walk undaunted even through it. The

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ſame method and gentleneſs muſt be obſerved alſo, in regard to glittering arms, colours, ſtandards, &c.

As to horſes that are apt to lie down in the water, if animating them, and attacking them vigorouſly, ſhould fail of the deſired effect, (which ſeldom is the caſe) then break a ſtraw-bottle full of water upon their heads, the moment they begin to lie down, and let the water run into their ears, which is a thing they apprehend very much, and which will in all probability ſoon cure them of the trick.

All troop-horſes muſt be taught to ſtand quiet and ſtill when they are ſhot off from, to ſtop the moment you preſent, and not to move after firing, 'till they are required to do it: this leſſon ought eſpecially to be obſerved in light troops, and it ſhould never be neglected in any kind of cavalry whatſoever: in ſhort, the horſes muſt be taught to be ſo cool and undiſturbed, as to ſuffer the riders to act upon them with the ſame freedom, as if they were on foot. Patience, coolneſs, and temper, are the only means requiſite for accompliſhing this end.

The rider, when he fires, muſt be very attentive not to throw himſelf forwards too much, or otherwiſe *derange* himſelf in his ſeat. Begin by walking the horſe gently, then ſtop and keep him from ſtirring for ſome time, ſo as to accuſtom him by degrees not to have the leaſt idea of moving without orders: if he does, back him; and when you ſtop him, and he is quite ſtill, leave the reins quite looſe, and careſs him.

To uſe a horſe to fire-arms, firſt put a piſtol or carbine in the manger with his feed; then uſe him to the ſound of the lock and the pan; after which, when you are upon him, ſhew the piece to him, preſenting it forwards, ſometimes on one ſide, ſometimes on the other: when he is thus far reconciled, proceed to flaſh in the pan; after which, put a ſmall charge into the piece, and ſo continue augmenting it by degrees to the quantity which is commonly uſed: if he ſeems uneaſy, walk him forwards a few ſteps ſlowly, and then ſtop, back, move forwards, then ſtop again, and careſs him. Great care muſt be taken not to burn, or ſinge the horſe any where in firing; he would remember it, and be very ſhy, for a long time. Horſes

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are alſo often diſquieted and unſteady at the claſh and glittering of arms, at the drawing and returning of ſwords, all which they muſt be familiarized to by little and little, by frequency and gentleneſs.

In going over rough and bad ground, the men muſt keep their hands high, and their bodies back.

It is very expedient for all cavalry, in general, but particularly for light cavalry, that their horſes ſhould be very ready and expert in leaping over ditches, hedges, gates, &c. not only ſingly but in ſquadrons, and lines. The leaps, of whatever ſort they are, which the horſes are brought to in the beginning, ought to be very ſmall ones, and as the horſe improves in his leaping, be augmented by degrees; for if the leaps were encreaſed conſiderably at once, the horſe would blunder, grow fearful, and contract an aukward way of leaping with hurry, and confuſion. The riders muſt keep their bodies back, raiſe their hand a little in order to help the fore-parts of the horſe up, and be very attentive to their equilibre, without raiſing themſelves up in the ſaddle, or moving their arms. The ſureſt way to prevent people, in leaping over any thing, from rai-

ſing up their arms and elbows, (which is an unfirm, and ungraceful motion) is to make them put a hand whip, or ſwitch, under each arm, and not let them drop. 'Tis beſt to begin at a low bar covered with furze, (*Plate* 15 .⊛.) which pricking the horſe's legs, if he does not raiſe himſelf ſufficiently, prevents his contracting a ſluggiſh and dangerous habit of touching, as he goes over, which any thing yielding, and not pricking, would give him a cuſtom of doing. Many horſes, in learning to leap, are apt to come too near, and in a manner with their feet under the bar. The beſt way to prevent their doing ſo, is to place under the bar two planks of the breadth of the pillars on which the leaping bar is fixed: theſe planks muſt meet and join at top under the bar, about two feet high from the ground, (*Plate* 15 .4.) and project at bottom upon the ground, about two feet; they muſt be ſtrongly framed, that the horſe may not break them, by touching them with his feet. The bar ſhould be placed ſo as to run round, when touched. Let the ditches and hedges, &c. you firſt bring horſes to, be inconſiderable, and in this, as in every thing elſe, let the increaſe be made by degrees. Accuſtom them to come up gently to every thing, which they

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are to leap over, and to ſtand coolly at it for ſome time; and then to raiſe themſelves gently up, and go clear over it, without either ſloth or hurry. When they leap well ſtanding, (*Plate* 11 *and* 13.) then uſe them to walk gently up to the leap, and to go over it without firſt halting at it; and after that practice is familiar to them, repeat the like in a gentle trot, and ſo by degrees faſter and faſter, 'till at length it is as familiar to them to leap flying on a full gallop, (*Plate* 12 *and* 14.) as any other way; all which is to be acquired with great facility by calm and ſoft means, without any hurry.

As horſes are naturally apt to be frightened at the ſight and ſmell of dead horſes, numbers of which are every moment met with on ſervice, (eſpecially at the latter end of the year, when the roads are bad, and the poor animals, too often treated and driven cruelly, go a great way from camp for forage) it is adviſeable to habituate them to walk over, and leap over carcaſes of dead horſes; and as they are particularly terrified at this ſight, the greater gentleneſs ought conſequently to be uſed in breaking them of their dread of it.

Horſes

Horſes ſhould alſo be accuſtomed to ſwim, which often may be neceſſary upon ſervice; and if the men and horſes both are not uſed to it, both may be frequently liable to periſh in the water. A very ſmall portion of ſtrength is ſufficient to guide a horſe, any where indeed, but particularly in the water, where they muſt be permitted to have their heads, and be as little conſtrained as poſſible in any ſhape. In croſſing rivers, the horſe's head ſhould be kept againſt the current, more or leſs, according to the ſituation of the place, higher up, or lower down, purpoſed to land at, and the degree of rapidity of the water. In going down the ſtream, the ſtraighter the horſe is the better. The rider had always better quit his ſtirrups on theſe occaſions, for fear of accidents, and his getting entangled in them. A horſe is turned difficultly in the water; it muſt be done very gently and carefully. For partizans, and all who go chiefly on reconnoitring duty, horſes ſhould be choſen, who are not apt to neigh: the Numidians preferred mares to horſes, for ſurprizes on the enemy, becauſe, being leſs apt to neigh, they were leſs likely to be diſcovered. Thoſe of the whole army ſhould be taught to be obedient to the voice, and to carry double.

ble. Reins may be cut in battle; and in croſſing waters, and upon forced marches, it may ſometimes be neceſſary to take the infantry *(en croupe)* up behind. The ancient Lybians directed their horſes in battle by the voice; and the ſame cuſtom prevails amongſt them to this day, for the modern Africans do the ſame.

The heavy cavalry may poſſibly object to having their large horſes taught all theſe ſeveral exerciſes; but though they are not, nor can indeed be expected to perform all, with the ſame activity and velocity, as light troops do, yet 'tis abſolutely neceſſary, that they ſhould be taught them all; for 'tis a melancholy conſideration, that any trifling obſtacle ſhould prevent ſo uſeful and powerful a body from acting. I cannot take upon me to ſay, whether it was always ſo in former times, or not: the ancients, I believe, underſtood horſemanſhip more than we are aware of: there is a great deal of good ſenſe in XENOPHON's method of forming horſes for war; after him, horſemanſhip was buried for ages, or rather brutaliſed, which is ſtill too much the caſe.

CHAP.

CHAP. VIII.

The method of curing reſtiveneſſes, vices, defences, ſtarting, and ſtumbling, &c.

BEFORE any mention is made of the different kinds of reſtiveneſſes, vices, and defences, &c. it is not amiſs to obſerve, that a horſe's being good or ill-natured greatly depends on the temper of the perſon, that is put about him, eſpecially at firſt; and conſequently one cannot be too careful and watchful in this point.

Whenever a horſe makes reſiſtance, one ought, before a remedy or correction is thought of, to examine very minutely all the tackle about him, if any thing hurts or tickles him, whether he has any natural or accidental weakneſs, or in ſhort any the leaſt impediment in any part. For want of this precaution, and previous inſpection, many fatal, and often irreparable diſaſters happen: the poor dumb animal is frequently accuſed falſely of being reſtive and vicious; is uſed ill without reaſon, and being forced into deſpair,

deſpair, is, in a manner, obliged to act accordingly, be his temper and inclination ever ſo well diſpoſed. It muſt never be forgot, that it is neceſſary to work on the minds of horſes, at firſt by ſlow motions which give them time to reflect. By degrees every thing may be done moſt rapidly with eaſe and very well. Such is in general, unleſs ſpoilt by us, the good temper, docility, and obedience of a horſe, that almoſt any thing may be done with him by good-nature, and ſcience. Even the domeſtic, worthy, friendly dog is not more ſuſceptible of education.

A horſe that is vicious and alſo ſo weak, that there are no hopes of his growing ſtronger, is a moſt deplorable beaſt, and not worth any one's care or trouble: 'tis very ſeldom, (I was near ſaying, never) the caſe, that a horſe is really, and by nature vicious; but if ſuch be found, chaſtiſements will become neceſſary ſometimes, but they muſt then be always made uſe of with the greateſt judgment, and temper. The propriety of aids is to foreſee, and prevent faults. The propriety of chaſtiſements is to correct them.

Correction, according as you uſe it, throws a horſe into more or leſs violent action, which, if he be weak, he cannot ſupport: but a vicious ſtrong horſe is to be conſidered in a very different light, being able both to undergo and conſequently to profit by all leſſons; and is, in every reſpect, far preferable to the beſt-natured weak one upon earth. Patience and ſcience are never-failing means to reclaim a wicked horſe: in whatſoever manner he defends himſelf, bring him back frequently with gentleneſs, but with firmneſs too, to the leſſon which he ſeems moſt averſe to. Horſes are by degrees made obedient through the hope of recompence and the fear of puniſhment: how to mix theſe two motives judiciouſly together is a very difficult matter, not eaſy to be preſcribed; it requires much thought and practice; and not only a good head, but a good heart likewiſe. The cooleſt, and beſt-natured rider, *cæteris paribus*, will always ſucceed beſt. By a dextrous uſe of the incitements above-mentioned you will gradually bring the horſe to temper and obedience; mere force and want of ſkill and of coolneſs would only tend to confirm him in bad tricks. If he be impatient or choleric, never ſtrike him, unleſs he abſolutely refuſes to go forwards, which

which you muſt reſolutely oblige him to do, and which will be of itſelf a correction, by preventing his having time to meditate, and put in execution any defence by retaining himſelf. Reſiſtance in horſes, you muſt conſider, is ſometimes a mark of ſtrength and vigour, and proceeds from ſpirits, as well as ſometimes from vice and weakneſs. Weakneſs frequently drives horſes into vicioufneſs, when any thing, wherein ſtrength is neceſſary, is demanded from them; nay, it inevitably muſt: great care therefore ſhould always be taken to diſtinguiſh from which of theſe two cauſes, that are evidently ſo different, the defence ariſes, before any remedy or puniſhment is thought of. It may ſometimes be a bad ſign, when horſes do not at all defend themſelves, and proceed from a ſluggiſh diſpoſition, a want of ſpirit, and of a proper ſenſibility. Whenever one is ſo fortunate as to meet with a horſe of juſt the right ſpirit, activity, delicacy of feeling, with ſtrength, and good-nature, he cannot be cheriſhed too much; for ſuch a one is a rare and ineſtimable jewel, and if properly treated, will, in a manner, do every thing of himſelf. Horſes are oftener ſpoilt by having too much done to them, and by attempts to dreſs them in too great a hurry, than by any other treatment.

If after a horſe has been well ſuppled, and there are no impediments, either natural or accidental, if he ſtill perſiſts to defend himſelf, chaſtiſements then become neceſſary: but whenever this is the caſe, they muſt not be frequent, but always firm, though always as little violent, as poſſible: for they are both dangerous and very prejudicial, when frequently or ſlightly played with; and ſtill more ſo, when uſed too violently. When a rider quarrels with his horſe, he is generally the dupe of his paſsion, and the fray commonly ends to his diſadvantage. Whenever you ſee a man beating any animal, you will almoſt always find, that the man is in the wrong, and the animal in the right.

'Tis impoſsible in general, to be too circumſpect in leſſons of all kinds, in aids, chaſtiſements or careſſes; for as the great Duke of Newcaſtle obſerves, if any man was in the form of a horſe, he could not invent with more art than ſome horſes do, ſchemes to oppoſe what is required of him. Some have quicker parts, and more cunning, than others. Many will imperceptibly gain a little every day on their rider. Various in ſhort are their diſpoſitions, and capacities. It is the rider's buſineſs to find out their different qualities,

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and to make them ſenſible how much he loves them, and deſires to be loved by them, but at the ſame time, that he does not fear them, and will be maſter. A good natured clever man may with the greateſt eaſe teach a horſe any thing; more tricks even of all kinds, than dogs are ſeen to perform at fairs. Plunging is a very common defence among reſtive and vicious horſes: if they do it in the ſame place or backing, they muſt by the rider's legs, and ſpurs too ſometimes firmly applied, be obliged to go forwards, and their heads kept up high. But if they do it flying forwards, keep them back, ride them gently and very ſlow for a good while together, and back them gently every now and then. Of all bad tempers and qualities in horſes, thoſe, which are occaſioned by harſh treatment and ignorant riders, which are very common, are the worſt.

Rearing is a bad vice, and in weak horſes eſpecially, a very dangerous one. Whilſt the horſe is up, the rider muſt yield his hand, and when the horſe is deſcending he muſt vigorouſly determine him forwards by approaching his legs to the horſe's ſides: if this be done at any other time, but whilſt the horſe is coming down, it may add a ſpring to his rearing,

rearing and make him fall backwards. With a good hand on them, horſes ſeldom perſiſt in this vice; for they are themſelves naturally much afraid of falling backwards. If this method, which I have mentioned, fails, (which it ſcarcely ever will) you muſt make the horſe kick up behind, by getting ſomebody on foot to ſtrike him behind with a whip; or, if that will not effect it, by pricking him with a goad.

Starting often proceeds from a defect in the ſight, which therefore muſt be carefully looked into. Whatever the horſe is afraid of, bring him up to it gently; if you careſs him every ſtep he advances, he will go quite up to it by degrees, and ſoon grow familiar with all ſorts of objects. Nothing but great gentleneſs can correct this fault: for if you inflict puniſhment, the apprehenſion of chaſtiſement becomes prevalent, and cauſes more ſtarting, than the fear of the object. If you let him go by the object, without bringing him up to it, you increaſe the fault and confirm him in his fear: the conſequence of which is, he takes his rider perhaps a quite contrary way from what he was going, becomes his maſter, and puts himſelf and the perſon upon him, every moment in great danger. I have ſo often heard people maintain, ſome, that blows are neceſſary to cure

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this evil; and others, that horſes ſhould be ſuffered to have their own way in it, that I could not help ſaying a few words upon this ſubject, (though it ſpeaks for itſelf) to convince thoſe, who, as my ingenious friend Mr. BOURGELAT ſays, *argumentent de ces ſyſtemes deplorables.*

Quarrelling with horſes, plaguing, or beating them, as one often ſees done, not only ſpoils both their tempers, and their paces, but it teaches them to trip, ſtumble, fall, ſtart, run away, and to be unſteady and vicious, &c. whilſt gentleneſs and coolneſs would very ſoon bring them to go through, or over any bad place whatſoever, with eaſe, good-humour and ſafety. Beat a horſe for a trip, or ſuch a kind of thing, and he will ſoon do it again through fear and hurry. Such failures ſometimes proceed from weakneſs. In that caſe, proper food, and gentle exerciſe, by reſtoring the animal to health, and vigour, will cure him of them. If they come from inattention, or from the badneſs of his paces, he muſt have a good rider to render him attentive, and mend his movements. All other remedies will prove fruitleſs, but theſe will not, unleſs ſome natural defects, or acquired hurts, ſuch as lameneſs, or bad weakening diſtempers interfere.

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Many troop horſes, and particularly old ones, often do not chuſe to leave their companions. They ſhould therefore be uſed early, and frequently to leave their ranks ſingly.

With ſuch horſes, as are to a very great degree fearful of any objects, make a quiet horſe, by going before them, gradually entice them to approach nearer and nearer to the thing they are afraid of. If the horſe, thus alarmed, be undiſciplined and headſtrong, he will probably run away with his rider; and if ſo, his head muſt be kept up high, and the ſnaffle ſawed backwards and forwards from right to left, taking up and yielding the reins of it, as alſo the reins of the bit: but this latter muſt not be ſawed backwards and forwards, like the ſnaffle, but only taken up, and yielded properly. No man ever yet did, or ever will ſtop a horſe, or gain any one point over him by main force, or violence, or by pulling a dead weight againſt him.

Upon horſes, who have a trick of turning ſhort about ſuddenly, to the right for example, ſeperate the reins, taking one in each hand: leave the right one quite looſe, and pull the left one, ſtretching out your hand from the horſe to the left, and forwards. If the horſe ſtill reſiſts, uſe your left leg, and ſpur; and ſo *vice verſâ*, 'till he turns to the left.

CHAP.

CHAP IX.

Several remarks and hints on ſhoeing, feeding, management of horſes, &c. &c.

I Do not by any means intend to enter here largely on the many ſyſtems of ſhoeing; it would enlarge this treatiſe too much, and extend the object of it beyond the bounds I have preſcribed to it, and to myſelf: as feet differ, ſo ſhould ſhoes accordingly, but as it happens unfortunately for us, that the farriers belonging to the army, for want of proper education, due inſpection, and encouragement, are void of all real ſkill, and knowledge in their profeſſion, and have minds, in ſhort, quite uncultivated, it is abſolutely neceſſary to lay down only ſuch rules, as are plain, general and invariable, and the ſtricteſt diſcipline muſt be enforced to make them all obſerved and followed moſt religiouſly. I do not however deſpair of ſeeing in time ſome intelligent farriers properly inſtructed; and when ſuch are formed, and not 'till then, the number of them in regiments ſhould be increaſed: It would even be much better to have none at all, 'till ſuch a reformation is brought a-

bout. One man cannot properly ſhoe more than forty horſes; at preſent we have only one to a troop of fifty-five, in time of war, beſides bat-horſes, and all others belonging to officers, ſutlers, carriages, ſervants, &c. There ſhould alſo be one forge-cart at leaſt appropriated to each ſquadron, and a third for the latter-mentioned purpoſes: but they muſt not be like our preſent ones, which are made ſo heavy and with ſuch low wheels, that they employ a great number of horſes, ruin moſt of them, and after all, ſeldom get up to their reſpective regiments in right time, even in good roads, and never in bad ones. And I may ſay, that 'tis lucky they do not, for upon experience one finds fewer horſes lame, during the abſence of farriers, than when they are preſent. They ſhould be built upon two wheels only, and thoſe very high: The cart muſt be covered, and have partitions in it for the forge, bellows, tools, charcoal, &c. All theſe things muſt be ſo contrived, as to be eaſily taken out of the cart, and worked on the ground. This ſort of forge-cart never ſticks, and is always able to keep up with the regiments on any marches: it requires but few horſes, and ſpoils none. I have one for my own uſe, made by the Hanoverian train, which

which is drawn eaſily by two horſes. For regiments, the carts muſt be ſomewhat larger, and more ſubſtantial, and would require three horſes. I doubt not, but an Engliſh workman would improve upon them, as to ſtrength and lightneſs, as well as convenience; tho' the cart I have, is very well conſtructed, and anſwers well every neceſſary purpoſe.

Phyſic and a butteris in well-informed hands would not be fatal; but in the manner we are now provided with farriers, they muſt be quite baniſhed. Whoever lets his farrier, groom, or coachman, ever even mention any thing more than water-gruel, a clyſter, or a little bleeding, and that too very ſeldom; or pretend to talk of the nature of ſeet, of the ſeat of lameneſſes, ſickneſſes, or their cures, may be certain to find himſelf very ſhortly, and very abſurdly, quite on foot. It is incredible what tricking knaves moſt ſtable-people are, and what daring attempts they will make to gain an aſcendant over their maſters, in order to have their own fooliſh projects complied with. In ſhoeing, for example, I have more than once known, that for the ſake of eſtabliſhing their own ridiculous and pernici-

ous ſyſtem, when their maſters have differed from it, they have, on purpoſe, lamed horſes, and imputed the fault to the ſhoes, after having in vain tried, by every ſort of invention and lies, to diſcredit the uſe of them. How can the method of ſuch people be commendable, whoſe arguments, as well as practice, are void of common ſenſe? If your horſe's foot be bad and brittle, they adviſe you to cover it with a very heavy ſhoe; the conſequence of which proceeding is evident: for how ſhould the foot, which before could ſcarce carry itſelf, be able afterwards to carry ſuch an additional weight, which is ſtuck on moreover with a multitude of nails, the holes of which tear and weaken the hoof? If the foot is cut or hurt, one doctor ſays, load it, by way of cover, with all you can: his conceited opponent as wiſely counſels you to let the horſe walk bare upon the ſore. The only ſyſtem all theſe ſimpletons ſeem to agree in, is to ſhoe in general with exceſſive heavy, and clumſy ill-ſhaped ſhoes and very many nails, to the total deſtruction of the foot. The cramps they annex, tend to deſtroy the bullet, and the ſhoes made in the ſhape of a walnut-ſhell, prevent the horſe's

walking

walking upon the firm baſis, which nature has given him for that end, thereby oblige him to ſtumble and fall, and of courſe from their ſhape tear out the nails and ruin the hoof. Feet once got thoroughly out of ſhape, by the cat walnut-ſhell, or other ill-ſhaped ſhoes, are ſometimes irrecoverable, and almoſt always very difficult to correct; for horn being of a flexible nature, by being confined in a mould, will retain the ſhape impreſſed upon it by a bad ſhaped ſhoe, which never admits of the natural tread of the foot. The beſt way, when a horſe is thus circumſtanced, is to pare his feet down almoſt to the quick, and ſhort at the toe, and to turn him out without ſhoes into ſome ſoft graſs ground 'till the feet grow again before he is ſhod. They totally pare away alſo, and lay bare the inſide of the animal's foot with their deteſtible butteris, which muſt cauſe narrow heels, becauſe the hard outſide of the foot will of courſe preſs in, when it finds no reſiſtance, the inſide being cut away, and they afterwards put on very long ſhoes, whereby the foot is hindered from having any preſſure at all upon the heels, which preſſure otherwiſe might ſtill perchance, notwithſtanding their dreadful cutting, keep the heels properly open, and the foot in good order. The

frog

frog ſhould never be cut out; but as it will ſometimes become ragged, it muſt be cleaned every now and then, and the ragged pieces cut off with a knife. In one kind of foot indeed a conſiderable cutting away muſt be allowed of, but not of the frog; I mean that very high feet muſt be cut down to a proper height; becauſe if they were not, the frog, tho' not cut, would ſtill be ſo far above the ground, as not to have any bearing on it, whereby the great tendon muſt inevitably be damaged, and conſequently the horſe would go lame.

The weight of ſhoes muſt greatly, wholely indeed, depend on the quality and hardneſs of the iron. If the iron be very good, it will not bend; and in this caſe, the ſhoes cannot poſſibly be made too light; care however muſt be taken, that they be of a thickneſs ſo as not to bend; for bending would force out the nails, and ruin the hoof. That part of the ſhoe, which is next the horſe's heel, muſt be narrower than any other, (as is ſeen in the draught) that ſtones may be thereby prevented from getting under it, and ſticking there; which otherwiſe would be the caſe; becauſe the iron, when it advances inwardly beyond

beyond the bearing of the foot, forms a cavity, wherein ſtones being lodged would remain, and by preſſing againſt the foot, lame the horſe. Broad webbed ſhoes are very abſurd things. Nothing more is wanted, than juſt iron enough to protect the outward cruſt of the foot, and to prevent its breaking. The nails in all ſhoes muſt, on account of the natural ſhape of the foot, be driven ſlanting a little towards the extreme edges of the foot. Any partial preſſure towards the inward edge of the ſhoe, muſt of courſe, in a broad webbed ſhoe, looſen the nails, and conſequently tear and damage the foot, ſuppoſing even the iron of the ſhoe good enough not to bend. This inconvenience of tearing out the nails, &c. great as it is, is the beſt which can happen in this caſe; for, if the iron was to bend, it would preſs againſt the inward part of the foot, and lame the horſe juſt as much as if the ſhoe had not been bevilled off at all in the proper place, for the picker to be put in, in order to clean out ſtones, gravel, &c. Making a groove round the edges of ſhoes, if the iron is not very good, may cauſe a partial yielding there; but if the iron is good, a groove is very uſeful, to protect the heads of the nails. Farriers ſhould always examine a

foot

foot before they ſhoe it, make the ſhoe, and pierce the holes for the nails further from, or nearer to, the edges of the foot accordingly, as they find the foot requires. The holes for the nails ſhould always be pierced ſlanting rather outwards. The beſt way to forge ſhoes, in reſpect to the nails, is to make the holes for the nails at twice, with two different inſtruments: firſt on the outſide of the ſhoe punch a place, not quite through the ſhoe, big enough to receive, and cover the head of the nail, when driven in: next punch a ſmaller hole, from the center of the above-mentioned larger one, for the blade of the nail, quite through the ſhoe: thus the nails are well driven in, protected, and can not be puſhed by uſe too much into the foot, but always keep their firm, proper place, full as well as, nay better than in a grooved ſhoe in caſe the iron ſhould not be perfectly good. All ſhoes ſhould be a little broader at the extremities towards the heels, than elſewhere, except the foot ſpreads of itſelf too much at the heel, which is ſeldom the caſe; if the horſe cuts, they muſt not be made ſo: the reaſon why they ſhould generally be broader there is, that they encourage the foot to grow, ſpread properly, and therefore prevent narrow heels. It muſt al-

ways

ways be remembered, that where the web grows narrow towards the heel, the ſeat of the ſhoe muſt nevertheleſs keep its uſual proper equal breadth within, otherwiſe the horſe's foot would not have its equal proper baſis, or *appui*, and the ſhoe would get into the foot, and require frequent removals, which are great inconveniences. The part of the ſhoe, which the horſe walks upon, ſhould be quite flat, and the inſide of it likewiſe; only juſt ſpace enough being left next the foot, to put in a picker, (which ought to be uſed every time the horſe comes into the ſtable, and often on marches) and alſo to prevent the ſhoe's preſſing upon the ſole. In ſnowy weather, it is particuarly neceſſary to pick and clean the feet very often, on marches; otherwiſe the ſnow ſoon grows very hard in the feet, makes the horſe ſlip about very much, and hurts him almoſt as much as large ſtones in the feet would do. Four nails on each ſide, hold better than a greater number, and keep the hoof in a far better ſtate. The toe of the horſe muſt be cut ſhort, and nearly ſquare, (the angles only juſt rounded off) nor muſt any nails be driven there; this method prevents much ſtumbling, eſpecially in deſcents, and ſerves by throwing nouriſhment to the heels, to ſtrengthen them;

on them the horſe ſhould in ſome meaſure walk, and the ſhoe be made of a proper length accordingly: by this means narrow heels are prevented, and many other good effects produced. Many people drive a nail at the toe, but it is an abſurd practice. Leaving room to drive one there cauſes the foot to be of an improper length, and moreover that part of the hoof is naturally ſo brittle, that the nail there ſeldom ſtays in, but tears out, and damages the hoof. That my directons for ſhoeing a proper length may be the more clear and intelligible, I have annexed a draught of a foot ſhod of a proper length, ſtanding on a plain ſurface, and with it a draught of the right kind of ſhoe. (*Plate* 16. No. 1. the interior part of the ſhoe next the foot, and No. 2. the exterior part, which reſts on the ground.) Moſt farriers make ſhoes thicker at the heels, than at the toes, eſpecially for hard working horſes: the great folly of doing ſo is very eaſy to be ſeen, for horſe-ſhoes always wear out ſooner at the toe, than any where elſe; conſequently the toe rather requires more ſubſtance, than any other part. In ſome farriers ſhops the anvils are concave, and the hammers convex, ſo that it is almoſt impoſſible a well ſhaped flat ſhoe ſhould be made there. Place the ſhoe both ways on a flat ſurface, and it is ſurprizing how faulty the form of it is generally.

La Fosse's tips, or half ſhoes, are particularly uſeful for feet whoſe cruſt is too weak to bear nails towards the hinder parts of the foot, and whoſe heels have a tendency to grow narrow. Pity it is that they require being frequently removed.

In wet, ſpungy, and ſoft ground, where the foot ſinks in, the preſſure upon the heels is of courſe greater, than on hard ground, and ſo indeed it ſhould be upon all accounts. The hinder feet muſt be treated in the ſame manner as the fore ones, and the ſhoes the ſame: except in hilly and ſlippery countries, where they may not improperly be turned up a little behind: but turning up the fore-ſhoes is very ſeldom, I am convinced, of any ſervice, and is very prejudicial to the fore legs, eſpecially to the bullets. In very greaſy, wet, or looſe kind of ſlippery ſoils indeed, where the ground eaſily gives way, and lets the foot in, without however holding it in very ſtrongly, turning up before may be uſeful, but in a hard country, where the foot can not enter the ground, cramps before are very hurtful, and quite uſeleſs; the tendon being by them elevated, and therefore conſtantly ſtraining itſelf for want of a baſis to reſt

on, they endamage the ſinews very much, and cauſe wind-galls, lameneſs, ſwellings on the bullet, and weakneſſes, &c. almoſt as much as the walnut-ſhell ſhaped ſhoe, which is held in ſuch high eſteem by bad farriers, and their ignorant ſtable followers. In deſcending hills, unleſs in the above-mentioned kind of ſoils, cramps on the fore feet are apt to throw horſes down, by ſtopping the fore legs, out of their proper baſis and natural bearing, when the hinder ones are rapidly preſſed; which unavoidably muſt be the caſe, and conſequently cannot but puſh the horſe upon his noſe. With them on a plain ſurface, a horſe's foot is always thrown forwards on the toe, out of its proper bearing, which is very liable to make the horſe ſtumble. The notion of their utility in going up hills is a falſe one. In aſcending, the toe is the firſt part of the foot, which bears on, and takes hold of the ground, whether the horſe draws, or carries; and conſequently the buſineſs is almoſt done, before the part, where the cramps are, comes to the ground. Ice nails are preferable to any thing to prevent ſlipping, as alſo to help horſes up hill, the moſt forward ones taking hold of the ground early, conſiderably before the heels touch the ground: they muſt be ſo made,

as to be, when driven in, about a quarter of an inch above the ſhoe, and alſo have four ſides ending at the top in a point. They are of great ſervice to prevent ſlipping on all kinds of places, and by means of them a horſe is not thrown out of his proper baſis. They muſt be made of very good iron; if they are not, the heads of them will be perpetually breaking off, which will not happen, if the iron is good, and the nails are well made, of the above-mentioned ſhape and ſize. Making them with higher heads, would render them liable to break off, and anſwer no purpoſe whatever. When, in the not long ago mentioned kinds of grounds, cramps on the fore feet are uſed, they ſhould be ſmall, and the heads of the nails ſhould ſtand up in the manner of the ice nails, but not quite ſo high, above the ſhoe, by which the foot and the tendons would always have their proper bearing. Theſe nails may be alſo uſed without any cramps. By putting a freſh nail every now and then on the ſhoe, as wanted, all wiſhed for ends are obtained, and no bad effects enſue. I know that I am fighting againſt a very ſtrong, though very unreaſonable prejudice. Let this method be tried only, and

compared

compared fairly on experience with others; and not immediately laid aſide, if, in ſlippery weather, a horſe thus ſhod ſhould now and then ſlip. In ſome weather, and on ſome ground, any horſe any how ſhod, may ſometimes chance to fall. There is unluckily no abſolute ſpecific againſt accidental falling in any ſhoes yet diſcovered. I have tried all methods, and find the above-mentioned one the neareſt to perfection: this ſort of ſhoe and nails, when well made and fixed properly, being the firmeſt baſis, and beſt hold I ever knew. I do not recommend ice nails at all times: in certain weather, (the greateſt part of the year indeed) the ground is in a condition which does not require any. From the race-horſe to the cart-horſe, the ſame ſyſtem of ſhoeing ſhould be obſerved: the ſize, thickneſs, and weight of them only ſhould differ: the ſhoe of a race-horſe muſt of courſe be lighter than that of a ſaddle-horſe; that of a ſaddle-horſe lighter than that of a troop, coach, draught, or bat horſe; and theſe laſt more ſo than a cart, waggon, or artillery horſe. A ſaddle-horſe's ſhoe ſhould weigh thirteen ounces and a half; that of a coach, or draught-horſe one pound and three ounces: the nails for the former one ounce per dozen; thoſe for the latter one

ounce

ounce and three quarters. Much the eaſieſt way, and in general the beſt, is to uſe a narrow-webbed ſhoe, all over of one equal breadth both within and without, with the holes for the nails exactly in the middle: with little or no art, ſuch a ſhoe is made out of a narrow bar of iron: it muſt neceſſarily be always narrow, for there can be no bevel in it, or it would preſs upon and hurt the inſide of the foot: it has one great advantage over all other ſhoes, that ſtones cannot lodge in it. At preſent all ſhoes in general are too *heavy:* if the iron is good, ſhoes need not be ſo thick, as they are now generally made. With exceedingly heavy loads, ſuch as large cannon, in hilly, ſlippery countries, and in the bad ſeaſons of the year, the thiller horſe ſhould be turned up both before and behind, with three cramps on each ſhoe; one in the middle part of the toe of the ſhoe; which in going up hill would help the horſe much in his firſt force to draw his weight after him. I mean this only for a thiller horſe, and in certain countries, and weather, when the foot can enter the ground, ſo that the elevation given to the ſhoe has no inconvenience attending it. The utmoſt ſeverity ought to be inflicted upon all thoſe who clap ſhoes on hot: this unpar-

unpardonable lazineſs of farriers in making feet thus fit ſhoes, inſtead of ſhoes fitting feet, dries up the hoofs, and utterly deſtroys them. It has happened, that the ſole has been ſo much heated by a hot ſhoe, that a horſe has been moſt dangerouſly lamed, and ſome have even loſt their lives by it. Shoes ſhould be always made and fitted before the holes are pierced. The ſhoes in England at preſent, that are contrived with the moſt ſenſe, are what they call plates for the race-horſes at New-Market: I do not ſay, that they are perfect, but they are nearer the truth, than any others I know; nor are they ſubſtantial enough for common uſe, though ſufficiently ſo for the turf.

It is ſometimes eaſy to cure horſes of cutting by ſhoeing, but far from always: nine times in ten their doing it proceeds from their turning out their toes. Colts generally graze with one foot ſtretched out, which reſts on the inſide, by which the inſide is worn down; this makes the toe grow outwards, and the colt becomes crooked from the fetlock downwards: the cutting then generally proceeds from the inſide being lower than the outſide; the

outſide

outſide therefore muſt be frequently pared down, and the inſide not. If the foot is ſuch as will not bear cutting, the ſhoe muſt be made thicker on the inſide web, than on the outſide one, from the heel to the toe, and every time the horſe is ſhod, the ſhoe muſt be turned a little inwards, and the outſide of the hoof raſped off, 'till the foot becomes quite ſtraight by degrees. Bar-ſhoes can never be good, or uſeful, but juſt for a very little time, to cover ſome damaged part of the foot, if the poor horſe can not be ſpared from work, 'till he is cured.

'Tis ſtrange, that there ſhould be ſo many ridiculous and abſurd methods of ſhoeing, when it is ſo manifeſt, that a ſmall ſhare of common-ſenſe, with a moment's reflection upon the ſtructure of a horſe's foot, cannot but ſuggeſt the proper one. Frequent removals of ſhoes are detrimental and tear the foot, but ſometimes they are very neceſſary: this is an inconvenience, which half-ſhoes are liable to, (though excellent in ſeveral other reſpects) for the end of the ſhoe being very ſhort is apt to work ſoon into the foot, and conſequently muſt then be moved. Soldiers ſhould always carry two ſpare ſhoes

with them, on the upper end and outward ſide of each holſter pipe, with ſome nails. Some ſhould carry a hammer, others a pair of pinchers, others a butteris, and all be taught how to fix on a ſhoe. The weight of theſe things properly divided is trifling. The uſe of them would be ſoon found on ſervice, particularly with light troops, and on detachments, where farriers cannot be preſent.

The common practice of ſtuffing feet with dung is a very bad one, for the dung contains a rotting quality in it: clay and hog's lard, well mixed together, is much better for that purpoſe. As to hoof ointment, none is better than that made of one pound of neat's foot oil, one pound of turpentine, and ten ounces of bees-wax. Greaſing and ſtopping, though good for moſt feet, are not ſo for all: weak ſpungy cruſts and ſoles are the worſe for it: ſuch muſt be kept dry. Strong feet muſt be often wetted, greaſed, and ſtopped, and the cruſt kept down low, or they will fall in by the ſtrong preſſure of the cruſt, and cauſe narrow heels. When horſes are hot, the water with which their feet are waſhed ſhould be lukewarm: if the heels are cracked, thoſe parts ſhould be waſhed with

with milk and water, and a little brandy in it, made a little warm. Mr. CLARKE, in his excellent treatiſe upon ſhoeing and feet, inſiſts, that oil, greaſy ſtuffings, and ointments agree but with few hoofs, that they ſtop the natural perſpiration, and that frequent waſhings with water, moiſture, and coolneſs, keep them in a much more perfect ſtate. The experience I have had ſince I ſaw his book, convinces me that he is right in general: the natural and ſuperior benefit which feet and hoofs receive at graſs from the dew, rains and moiſture of the earth, is a proof of it: and on the other hand we ſee, that race-horſes, particularly at New-Market, where they are always exerciſed on a dry, cloſe turf, and where they drink out of troughs, round which there is no water for them to ſtand in, are ſubject to a variety of diſeaſes in the feet, and hoofs, though they are kept conſtantly greaſed.

The methods of treating and keeping horſes in other reſpects, are as various, and for the generality as inconſiſtent with reaſon, as thoſe of ſhoeing are; but a little conſideration would (in moſt common caſes at leaſt) direct people right in both. One pampers his cattle, with

a view of ſtrengthening them; and afterwards, by way of correction, he pours down drugs into them without thought or meaſure: another lets no air at all into his ſtable; from whence his horſes inevitably catch cold, when they ſtir out of it, and are rotted, if they ſtay in it, by bad corrupted air: a third, equally wiſe, leaves his ſtable open, and his cattle expoſed to the wind and weather at all times, whether his horſes or the weather be hot or cold, and frequently too even in wind-draughts, whilſt they are in a ſweat. All theſe different notions and practices are alike attended with deſtruction to horſes; as alſo are the many extravagances that prevail in the ſame contradictory extremes, with regard to coverings. But in anſwer to all theſe fooliſh ſyſtems, reaſon plainly ſuggeſts to us, that proper wholeſome food, a well-tempered circulation of ſweet air, moderate and conſtant exerciſe, with due care, and ſuitable cloathing, as weather and occaſions may require, will never fail to preſerve horſes ſound and in health.

After working, and at night of courſe, as alſo in lameneſſes, and ſickneſſes, 'tis good for horſes to ſtand on litter; it alſo promotes ſtaleing, &c. At other times it is a bad

a bad cuſtom; the conſtant uſe of it heats and makes the feet tender, and cauſes ſwelled legs: moreover it renders the animal delicate. Swelled legs may frequently be reduced to their proper natural ſize by taking away the litter only, which, in ſome ſtables, where ignorant grooms, and farriers govern, would be a great ſaving of phyſic and bleeding, beſides ſtraw. I have ſeen by repeated experiments, legs ſwell, and unſwell, by leaving litter, or taking it away, like mercury in a weather-glaſs.

It is of the greateſt conſequence for horſes to be kept clean, regularly fed, and as regularly exerciſed: but whoever chuſes to ride in the way of eaſe and pleaſure, without any fatigue on horſeback, or in ſhort does not like to carry his horſe, inſtead of his horſe's carrying him, muſt not ſuffer his horſe to be exerciſed by a groom, ſtanding up on his ſtirrups, holding himſelf on by means of the reins, and thereby hanging his whole dead weight on the horſe's mouth, to the entire deſtruction of all that is good, ſafe or pleaſant about the animal. No horſe's paces can be perfect, nor can he be agreeable, or indeed quite ſafe, unleſs his mouth has been made, and his body ſuppled to

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a certain degree, ſo as to be balanced in the rider's hand. A horſe's head ſhould be kept high: when it is low, the animal can not be well balanced; for the fore parts being low, and weighing forwards, the hinder parts muſt of courſe be high: the fore parts are naturally much more loaded than the hinder ones, though of a leſs ſtrong conſtruction. The rider ought to know as much as his horſe, at leaſt; for, without art, it is impoſſible to preſerve that *union*, and that *together*, if I may ſo expreſs myſelf, which are equally pleaſing, and neceſſary: a man on a totally uninſtructed horſe, or an ill-inſtructed one, rides, as it were, upon a coach pole.

A great quantity of hay, eſpecially that which is taken from water meadows, or any low and ſwampy ground, being of a foggy nature, is not good for horſes; it hurts their wind very much: it may ſerve indeed for cart-horſes, and for ſuch troop-horſes (few of ſuch, thank God, now remain) who are meant for no other uſe, but to roll on ſlowly with a fat fellow, full of beer, upon them; who, to the ſhame of the ſervice, with the badge of ſoldierſhip on his back, is a more ſtupid and lazy animal, than what he

he is mounted upon, which to its misfortune is rendered ſo by the ſluggiſhneſs of its rider. But troops, who are really deſtined for ſervice, and to be uſeful, muſt be active and in wind; the very training them only, to what is abſolutely neceſſary, requires that they ſhould be ſo, more, or leſs, according to the different intents and purpoſes they may be deſigned for.

Upon ſervice, the allowance of all kinds of forage, whenever there is a poſſibility of ſupplying it, is ſufficient; but ſometimes it cannot be procured for a long while together: beſides which misfortune, it is very often moſt ſhamefully and careleſsly waſted; not to mention, that commiſſaries in general ſeldom furniſh out the due quantity or quality of any thing, which they have agreed and engaged for, and are moſt amply paid for.

At home, our horſes are crammed and ruined with overmuch hay, and the allowance of corn is ſcanty. A kind of mill, not to grind corn, but only juſt to crack and bruiſe it a little, is ſo uſeful, that no regiment ſhould ever march without one. Every grain of it goes to nouriſhment; none is to be found in the dung; and three feeds of it go further

than

than four as commonly given, which have not been in the mill. Cut wheaten ſtraw, and a little hay too ſometimes mixed with it, is excellent food: to a quartern of corn put the ſame quantity of cut ſtraw, and now and then if a horſe is very lean, but not otherwiſe, about half a one of hay, and let them all be well mingled together; and as chopped ſtraw is generally exceedingly dry, ſprinkle a little water upon the feed in the manger. This proportion of chopped ſtraw may ſeem great, but conſidering the lightneſs of it, it is not ſuch in reality. It obliges horſes to chew their meat, and is many other ways of uſe. The quantity of horſes food muſt be proportioned to their ſize, work, make, appetite, &c.; yet, in regiments it is neceſſary to fix, and follow ſome kind of general rule in reſpect to it. Four of theſe feeds as above-mentioned, with ten or twelve pounds of hay per day, will be ſufficient for moſt horſes on almoſt on all occaſions, except at the piquet late in the year in bad weather; then they ſhould be almoſt always feeding on ſomething, or other; and if they have no corn, they will conſume near forty pounds a day of hay, allowing for ſome waſte, which is unavoidable, eſpecially on bad ground, and in windy weather.

weather. When the forage conſiſts of unthraſhed ſtraw only, eight-and-twenty, or thirty pounds of it for each horſe will do very well, eſpecially, if the cutting-box is made uſe of, as it always ſhould be. Whenever forage is ſcarce, the beſt method is to have every thing cut, and given to the horſes every two hours, in noſe-bags, or deep canvaſs troughs, ſo that the wind may blow none away. Even in time of peace at home, the cutting-box ſhould be uſed conſtantly. The allowance at home cannot afford ſo much, neither indeed is ſo much neceſſary, when troops are not on ſervice. The exerciſe horſes take at home, though it ſhould perhaps be greater, and more conſtant, than it is in ſome corps, does not require it. A matter of the greateſt conſequence, though few attend to it, is to feed horſes according to their work, and never to ſuffer them to paſs the day quite ſtill, without ſome motion at leaſt. When the work is hard, food ſhould be in plenty; when it is otherwiſe, the food ſhould be diminiſhed immediately; the hay particularly. Horſes ſhould be turned looſe ſomewhere, or walked about every day, when they do not work, particularly after hard exerciſe. Swelled legs, phyſic, &c. will be ſaved by theſe means, and many diſtempers avoided.

I cannot mention the word piquet, without ſaying ſomething on our pernicious cuſtom of cutting horſe's tails entirely off, the inconvenience of which is very glaring in many inſtances; but in none more, or more ſeriouſly ſo, than at piquets on ſervice, when in hot weather, and in ground where there are many flies. I have often ſeen our horſes, with meat before them, fretting, ſweating, kicking about, laming one another, and ſo plagued with flies for want of tails to bruſh them away, that they did not eat at all, and ſo grew out of condition, whilſt the neighbouring foreign regiments on the ſame ground bruſh'd off the flies with their tails, were cool, quiet, and fed at their eaſe, and improved. Since that time indeed our cavalry has been ordered to recruit only long tails, and tis to be hoped the nation will follow the example, though old cuſtoms, even the worſt, I know, are hard to be got the better of. That of cutting off horſes tails, ears, and other extremities, is a very old noted one indeed amongſt us in England; for ſo long ago as the year 747, a canon was, by order of Pope Gregory the ſecond, in a letter to St. Auguſtine, expreſly made at an eccleſiaſtical court in Yorkſhire, to aboliſh, amongſt other cruel cuſtoms, ſo barbarous

barous a practice. On duty and marches long tails are very eaſily tied up properly, and look very well: a nag-tail indeed, ſuffered to grow a little, protects a horſe pretty well. All ſorts of grains are foggy feeding, and though they plump up the body, they do not give a wholeſome and ſound fat: bran too, is not ſolid food, and is only now and then to be allowed, when horſes are heated, to refreſh, and open them, if the caſe requires it.

Whenever hay is put and left in the racks, it ſhould be well cleaned and freed from duſt, and not given in too large quantities: in this reſpect 'tis, like water, much more beneficial, when ſupplied in ſmall quantities at a time. When a good deal is given at a time, horſes ſpoil, and do not eat the greateſt part of it very often, by having blown upon it a good while. A proper quantity of it ſhould be given at twice; a little in the morning before watering, and the reſt ſometime after they have done their work in the evening. Nothing but good clean wheaten-ſtraw ſhould be left at night in the racks, when the ſtables are ſhut up, and the horſes left to reſt. If hay is left for them, they will frequently ſtand up to feed almoſt all night, lie down

but little, and take ſcarcely any reſt. A little ſtraw ſometimes in the racks during the day time is alſo proper.

Both before, and after working, horſes ſhould be turned about with their croupes to the manger for about an hour. 'Tis a common, but a great error, and very detrimental to horſes, to gallop them immediately after drinking; what ſtable-men call warming the water in their bellies: they ought to be moved only gently. Upon the whole, a very lean horſe, and a very fat horſe are both in a manner uſeleſs to a certain degree: a rough coat is no good ſymptom; but the means of making it fine ſhould not be by dint of heat and covering, but by dreſſing and due care. It is of the greateſt conſequence to a horſe's health, that he ſhould always be well rubbed down, and cleaned. Lazineſs is the true reaſon why grooms cover horſes ſo much, and keep ſtables ſo hot, though they diſguiſe it under the pretence of thinking it wholeſome, which indeed however the moſt ignorant of them really do. A horſe when abſolutely ruined by over heat will nevertheleſs very often have a very fine good looking coat.

It is a duty very requiſite, and incumbent upon officers, to be as conſtant, exact, and frequent in going up and down the lines in camp, as through the ſtables in quarters; and it is likewiſe adviſeable for every one to viſit often his own ſtables, to inſpect and ſuperintend the management of the horſes. No trimming with cizars ſhould be permitted; but whatever rough hairs appear, ſhould be taken off by dreſſing. The inſide particularly of the ears ſhould never be trimmed, but always kept cleaned: nature has placed hairs within them for reaſons very obvious: when they are cut away, duſt and inſects frequently get into the ears, incomode horſes very much, and ſometimes cauſe a ſerious ailment in thoſe parts. As great inconveniences often happen from horſes getting looſe, I have affixed a draught and deſcription of the moſt effectual halter I know of; (*Pla.* 17.) and indeed the only one I have found upon trial, that is capable of preventing it.

This halter has no throat-band, or rather it has, in a manner, two, which are fixed, and begin at No. 1. They croſs at 2, are fixed again and end at 3. The noſe band is alſo ſowed on at 3. The place 2, where the throat-

bands

bands meet, is a flat button, which is placed, when the halter is well put on, juſt under the ganaches, (the channel between the two jaw-bones.) The chains, ropes, or leathers, No. 4, which tie the horſe in the ſtable, are alſo fixed at 3. No. 5, a ſingle cord or leather; if the horſe is only faſtened with one, which will be as effectual as two.

As horſes are generally more ſupple to the left, than to the right, owing to their being, from their earlieſt youth, more handled on that ſide, than the other, they ſhould not only be led with the left hand, in order that they may bend rather to the right, than to the left; but all collars, caveſſons, girts, bridles, bridoons, pillar cords, &c. ſhould be made for the ſame reaſon, to buckle, and unbuckle on the right ſide. Horſes often hang themſelves in their halters, and frequently hurt themſelves a good deal by it: the beſt remedy for ſuch accidents is merely to keep the hurt clean by waſhing it with lukewarm water with ſome brandy in it, and every now and then to ſupple the part with a little green ointment, ſuch as mallows, &c. boiled to a certain conſiſtency, and mixed with ſweet oil.

When

When horſes are out of caſe, have buttons broke out about them, their legs ſwell, and their coats ſtare, and there is not time (nor perhaps an abſolute neceſſity for it) to phyſic them, a rowel, and two ounces of the following powder, given every morning for twenty, or thirty days, in wetted corn, ſo that none can be blown away, are of great ſervice: the powder to be compoſed of one pound of liver of antimony, half a pound of ſulphur, and a quarter of a pound of nitre, mixed well together: if the horſe has a cough, make it into balls, with flour and treacle, or any ſuch kind of thing.

A common complaint amongſt troop-horſes is broken-wind, which is chiefly occaſioned by ſtuffing them with too much hay; and often by hurrying them too violently after drinking, and after their coming at firſt from graſs. There is no ſovereign remedy for broken-wind; but the greateſt palliative I know of, is this following receipt of lime-water, which is oftener of ſervice if continued long, or rather always indeed than any other remedy I know of, owing probably not only to the good effects of the lime, but alſo to the ſmall quantity of liquid the horſes take; for

for very few will ever drink plentifully of this water, and many will go ſeveral days without drinking at all, before they will even taſte it: the horſe muſt eat no hay at all, and only have wheaten ſtraw in the rack: this water muſt be uſed too when maſhes are given, and on every other occaſion: in ſhort no other water is ever to be given in any ſhape whatever: 'tis made thus---Take two pounds of quick lime, and put to it twelve gallons of water; mix it over night, ſtirring it for a long time together, and pouring the water on very gradually 'till the ebullition is over; then leave it to ſettle for uſe the next day. If a chalybeate ſpring is at hand, the lime-water will be much the better for being made of it, inſtead of any common water. This medicine cauſes no inconvenience, or impediment, and does not prevent the horſe from working as uſual. A horſe, whoſe wind is ſuſpicious, ſhould immediately be put on lime-water, and never drink more than a gallon or five quarts in a day, and no horſe ſhould drink more than double that quantity, that too at two or three different times. Three pints of warm milk from the cow, night and morning, will ſometimes prevent horſes heaving, or coughing for a ſhort time, even in tolerably ſmart exerciſe; but as

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the advantages ariſing from the milk are of ſo ſhort a duration, this method may, with reaſon, be looked upon more as a dealer's trick to ſell off a broken-winded horſe by, than as a remedy. Farriers generally ſend horſes touched in the wind to graſs, which, opening them, at firſt ſeems to do them good, but, when they are taken into the ſtable again, and put for ſome time on hard meat, they are always worſe than before, and the diſtemper more rooted in.

Worms are ſo common, and ſo troubleſome a diſtemper, that I can not omit ſaying ſomething of them here. Horſes, who look out of order, are frequently ſo owing to worms; that muſt be examined into always immediately. Give faſting, and let the horſe faſt three or four hours after it, a quart of beef brine every morning for three or four days. The brine alone will often cure entirely, a purge being given the day after all the brine is taken; a clyſter ſhould be given over night, before the purge. If from one ounce and a half to two ounces of Æthiop's mineral in a bolus is given the day after all the brine is taken, and a day before the purge, the cure will be ſtill more certain. You'll ſee the dead worms in the horſe's dung.

A running at the noſe, with a cough, and other ſymptoms, known by the name of *the diſtemper*, is ſo frequent, and ſo ill treated by farriers, that I can not help giving ſome directions for the treatment of it. Give frequent clyſters, keep a rowel or two running for ſome time, and, if the illneſs be violent, and attended by a fever, give James's fever powders for three nights running, the firſt night three papers, the ſecond night two papers, and the third night one paper. No bleeding at firſt. Then give, for four days running, two ounces of nitre, and afterwards an ounce and a half a day for ſome time. Poultice from the very beginning under and about the throat, with bread, milk, and lard, made pretty hot; if any thing hard thereabouts grows ſoft, and does not break of itſelf, open it with a lancet, and cleanſe it thoroughly. As ſoon as the running at the noſe ceaſes, and not before, give very gentle exerciſe, and, if the cough then ſtill remains, bleed very little at a time, but frequently, 'till it ceaſes. Keep the horſe by no means cold, but let him have freſh air. He muſt not be moved 'till the running at the noſe ceaſes. Don't phyſic, but continue the ounce and a half of nitre for three weeks at leaſt, and give two or three times a week,

for

for as long as is found neceſſary, a drink made of liquorice root, ſtones of raiſins bruis'd, and figs dry'd, of each two ounces, and one ounce of maiden-hair; boil them together in a quart of water, 'till reduced to a pint, then add ſyrup of balſam, cold drawn linſeed oil, of each two ounces, and one ounce of nitre. This drink not to be given 'till the running at the noſe ceaſes. If the diſtemper is exceedingly ſlight, James's powders, may be omitted. If the teſticles ſwell, uſe cooling things, ſuch as warm milk and water, marſh-mallows, &c. but above all things, don't neglect to ſuſpend them in a ſling. Keep the noſe and noſtrils very clean, by waſhing them frequently with warm water. Feed with maſhes only, and continue the poultice 'till the running of the noſe has ceaſed two or three days. Then the covering about the throat muſt be taken off by degrees, a little at a time.

Greaſy and ſwelled legs being a very common diſtemper in troop horſes, I ſhall ſet down the following very good receipt for the cure of it:---Take ſalt-petre two ounces and two drams, the ſame quantity of venice turpentine, one ounce and four drams of flour of brimſtone, diapente ſix drams; mix the whole together with a ſufficient

quantity of liquorice powder, make it into balls, and give it to the horſe faſting in the morning; he muſt not eat for two hours after taking it, nor drink for five or ſix hours, and then the water muſt be warmiſh; he muſt be kept warm, and have gentle walking exerciſe the next day; this doſe muſt be repeated twice, or more, as required, with an interval of three days between each doſe.

The following manner of treating the greaſe is alſo a very good one.---As medicines to be given inwardly, take of powdered reſin one ounce and a half; of ſalt of tartar, and ſal prunell, each ſix drams; ſpirit of turpentine, enough to make it into a ball. The proper doſe for a large horſe is three ounces: it ſhould be given when firſt made up, or elſe the ſalt of tartar will make its eſcape. This will operate as a diuretic two days, during which time the horſe is to have plenty of ſcalded bran, plenty of warm water, and gentle walking. The third and fourth morning, he is to take a ball made of the following medicines. Take of foenugreek, aniſeed, elecampane, turmerick, liquorice powder, diapente powdered, each equal parts; add to a pound of this powder two ounces of aniſated balſam of

ſulphur,

ſulphur, and honey enough to make it of a proper conſiſtence: the doſe of this ball to be of the ſize of a hen's egg: the diuretic ball is to be given in the morning; the day following nothing; the two ſucceeding mornings, the cordial ball; and ſo on 'till the diuretic ball has been given three times: the cordial ball to be continued every day after the third diuretic ball is given, 'till the horſe is well.

As external applications,---if there be a ſwelling of the parts, they ſhould be poulticed with warm rye meal, and milk, boiled to a proper conſiſtence, which is to be renewed every day. When the ſwelling is gone, apply the following: take of honey two pounds and a half; of train oil, and powdered allum, each two pounds; boil them to a proper conſiſtence: ſome of this to be ſpread on a linen rag, and applied to the parts: to be renewed once in forty-eight hours. The horſe muſt not go out, when this medicine is applied. This will dry up the ſores, and, if there is any ſcurf, or ſcab left, uſe the following mixture: take of the juice of houſeleek one part; of very thick cream two parts; beat it up together into an ointment, and rub ſome of it every day on the parts affected.

Reſin

Reſin drink is alſo very good for ſwelled legs. The following is alſo a good method of curing the greaſe: pluck out the hairs clean, with pinchers, all about, and upon the greaſed part. Then put on a turnip poultice, and leave it on twenty-four hours; then ſpread a linen bandage with tar, and wrap it, not looſe, nor tight, round the part, and leave it on three or four days. Continue at the ſame time, the balls, or reſin drink, and take away ſome blood once or twice, a little at a time.

When a horſe is lame, no matter where, grooms and farriers generally ſay he is ſo in the ſhoulder, which is very ſeldom the caſe. If he really is ſo, he will drag his toe on the ground, or move his legs circularly, more or leſs, according to the degree of the hurt; if he does not do it at all, he is not lame in the ſhoulder. Every body who is in the leaſt acquainted with the texture of a horſe, knows this to be true. When a horſe's lameneſs proceeds from any other cauſe, from the knee downwards, one may generally know it by ſome inflammation, or other ſign, ſuch as ſwellings, tenderneſſes, &c. One may generally ſuſpect with reaſon ſomething wrong in the feet, or coronary ring, owing chiefly to the common very bad method of managing feet. Running thruſhes

are

are a common complaint, and though they are to be ſtopped, generally end in eating away the inſide of the foot: Vitriol and water dry theſe thruſhes, and ſo does a mixture of one-third ſpirit of nitre, and two-thirds of ſpirit of wine dabbed with a rag, and ſeveral other applications of that kind. When horſes, who are troubled with them, tread on a ſharpiſh ſtone, the pain they feel from it is often ſo great, that they fall down as if they were ſhot. Sometimes a clumſy fellow, by negligence and aukwardneſs, which is oftener the caſe, than by any other accident, is the cauſe of his horſe's falling, and breaking his knees. If any thing will make the hair come again, and probably of a right colour, burnt cork finely ſifted, mixed with oil, and made into an ointment will do it; but if the horſe is grey, the burnt cork muſt be omitted, and honey mixed up with the oil in lieu of it, becauſe the burnt cork, by cauſing the hair to grow up of a darkiſh colour, would diſfigure a grey, or white horſe. Before the cork, and oil ointment is uſed, poultice the part with pounded turnips boil'd with milk, and mixed up with hog's lard, and a little friar's balſam; 'till there is no ſwelling or irritation left. The poultice muſt be put on freſh every twenty-four hours; the ointment muſt be laid on very often, and the part muſt be kept free from dirt.

For

For ſtrains of all kinds, ſoap, and camphor diſſolved into ſpirits of wine, and often well rubbed on the part, which muſt be afterwards covered with tow and warm pitch, are excellent. The tow thus ſtuck, and left on, keeps the injured part from cold, &c. and it is ſome time before it wears off: it is indeed a blemiſh for the time, but beſides being a good remedy in itſelf, it is otherwiſe of great uſe, as it puts it abſolutely out of the power of grooms and farriers to play any of their tricks, or for the latter to have any pretence whatſoever to be about the ſtables. It is a common cuſtom to give walking exerciſe to horſes who have ſprains, which is very pernicious; they ſhould not be ſtirred at all, if poſſible: abſolute reſt is the beſt remedy for them.

A blanket for each man carried under the ſaddle is of vaſt uſe to the horſe's back, as well as to the man on many occaſions. Every man ſhould have one.

Every troop ought to have a cutting-box belonging to it, and one man conſtantly employed in camp all day at it in chopping hay, ſtraw, &c. It is very eaſily carried about.

Forage, whatever it is, muſt not be cut too long, nor very

ſhort,

ſhort, but of ſuch a length, that it may not, from its lightneſs, be blown up the horſe's noſtrils out of the noſe-bag, or canvaſs trough. A lazy fellow at the cutting-box, if not watched, is very apt, by way of getting rid of his work ſoon, to cut it much too long.

The Germans wiſely carry, upon all occaſions whatever, every man a double feed of chopped ſtraw and corn mixed together, which is never touched, but by expreſs order of the commanding officer, and then too in ſuch quantities, and at what time, he thinks fit to direct. It frequently happens upon long marches, and even ſometimes when the troops ſtand ſtill, that forage cannot be procured for ſome days together; then this practice, which I have juſt mentioned, in a ſhort time gives ſtrong and apparent proofs of its utility, by the preſervation of their horſe's good plight. It is the means of ſaving the lives of many horſes, and helps, in caſes of exigencies, to keep up the vigour of moſt of them. None but thoſe, who have been eye-witneſſes to the fact, can tell what harm a deficiency of forage, only for two days, does horſes, eſpecially in marches by night, and in bad weather: ſome are often diſabled by it for the whole campaign, and ſome for ever after.

In the beginning of September, in our climates, green forage is no longer plenty on the ground. It would therefore be prudent from that time to make every man carry twenty pounds of ſpun hay, and afterwards later in the year a larger quantity. From about the twentieth of September, for example, or thereabouts, he might carry thirty pounds for the reſt of the campaign, and, beſides this hay, eight pounds of oats mixed with four pounds of cut wheaten ſtraw, none of theſe to be ever touched, but by order of the commanding officer, and then in ſuch quantity as he thinks fit. This method would often prevent troops from being in great want, and richly repay the horſe for carrying the forage. As hay ſpoils by being kept twiſted up for a long time together, it ſhould be unſpun, and given to the horſes at the end of three days, and a freſh truſs ſpun, and made up. If the campaign ſhould laſt through the whole winter, this forage muſt be carried, 'till there is green forage enough on the ground the enſuing year, which may not be 'till late, in poor uncultivated countries, or thoſe worn out by war. Whenever horſes come out of quarters, where they have met with abundance, corn muſt be taken from them by degrees, if poſſible, and not all at once, be the ſeaſon, and the country they take the field

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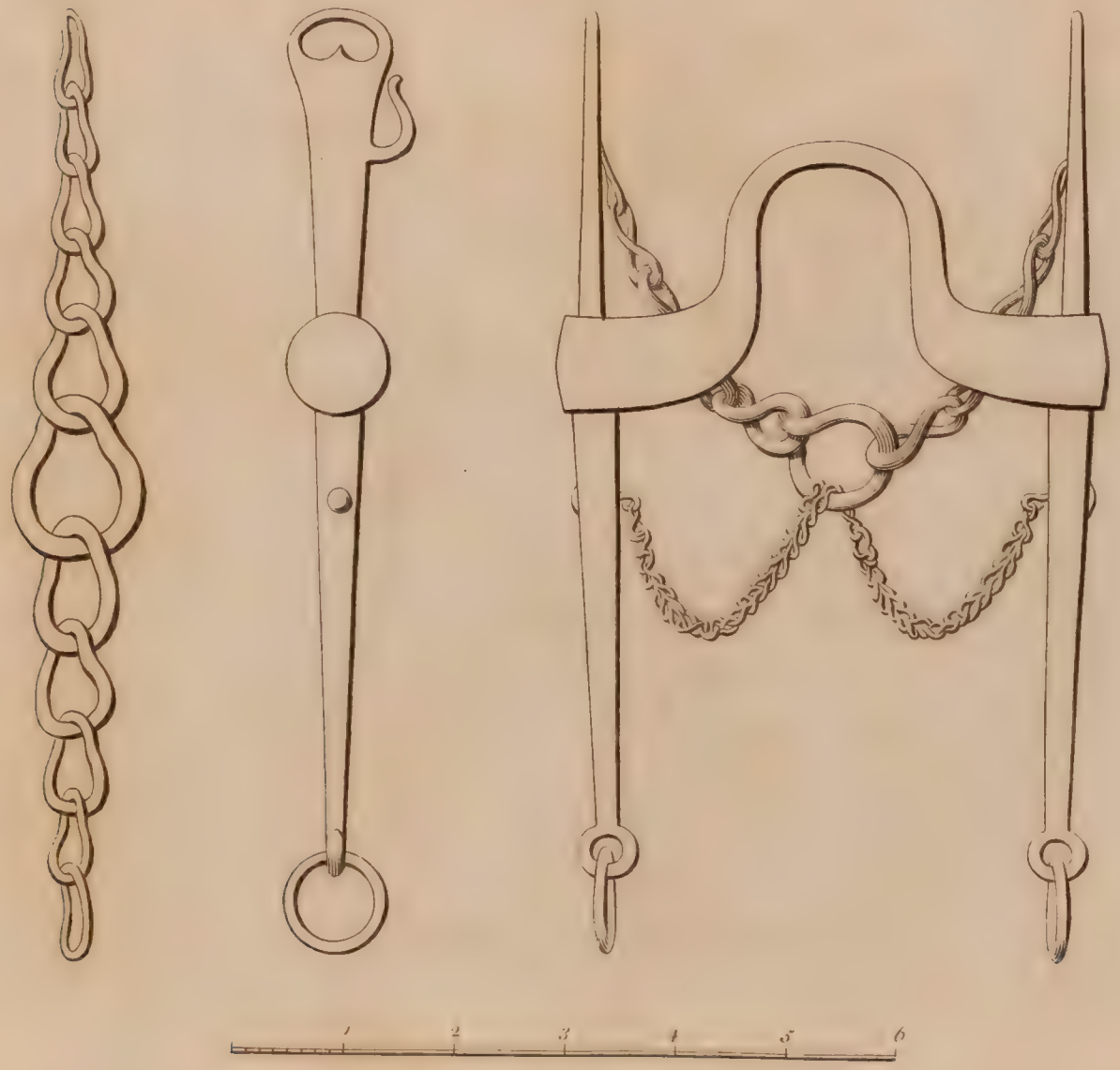
in ever ſo good. For a conſiderable time horſes will do very well in the field without corn, if, on coming out of quarters, they are not weaned from it too ſuddenly, and the weather, and green forage is tolerably good; but late in the year, when the weather grows bad, and horſes are obliged to go a great way for forage, ſome corn is abſolutely neceſſary.

In fetching forage, eſpecially from any diſtance, the truſſes ſhould be very well made and fixed, and no men ſuffered to ride on them; the weight of both being immenſe. I have very often ſeen truſſes of three hundred weight, which without a man on it, is a very heavy load. Lazineſs and cuſtom has made ſome people imagine that a truſs of forage cannot be carried without a man on it, but it is not ſo by any means, if the truſſes are well made, and properly fixed. Theſe, and many other precautions and care, in matters, ſeemingly perhaps little and trifling, ought to be deemed, (as they really are) equally as neceſſary for preſerving a regiment in the condition it ought to be for its own credit, and the public ſervice, as a juſt diſtribution of rewards and puniſhments. Theſe, and ſuch-like attentions ſhould no more be diſpenſed with, than that an officer of each

troop

troop ſhould conſtantly viſit every horſe of that troop daily in their lines, cantonments, or quarters; and eſpecially too, and without delay, after fatiguing marches, and foul weather: but if this care be intruſted to a quarter-maſter, who is already over-loaded, not only with his own, but often with the whole buſineſs of the officers, beyond a poſſibility of executing half of it; and if he likewiſe, (being indeed in ſome meaſure compelled to it) ſhuffle off his burden, all he can, upon the ſerjeants and corporals, what elſe can be expected, but that the ſame ſpirit of idleneſs and diſregard will diffuſe itſelf throughout the whole corps? Hence no duty would be compleatly and eſſentially performed; none in the ſtables or camp with reſpect to the horſes, accoutrements, &c. no regularity in cooking; no care to ſee the men well dried after wet ſervice; in ſhort, no ſerious attention to numberleſs other neceſſary articles of diſcipline, &c. whereby a regiment would moſt infamouſly fall to ruin, and be very ſoon rendered unfit for ſervice.

THE END.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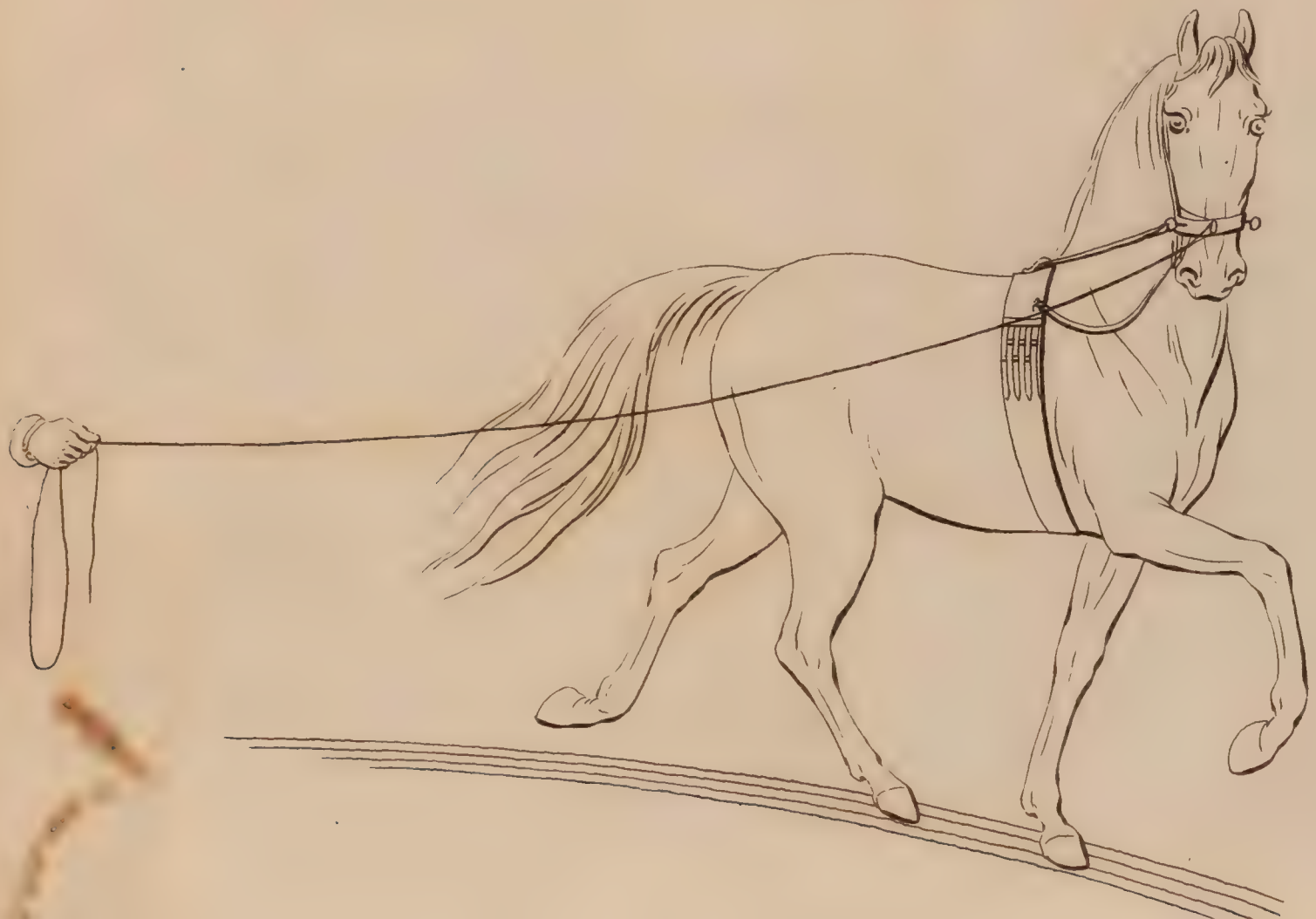
Pl. 2.



Pla. 5.

Pl. 6.

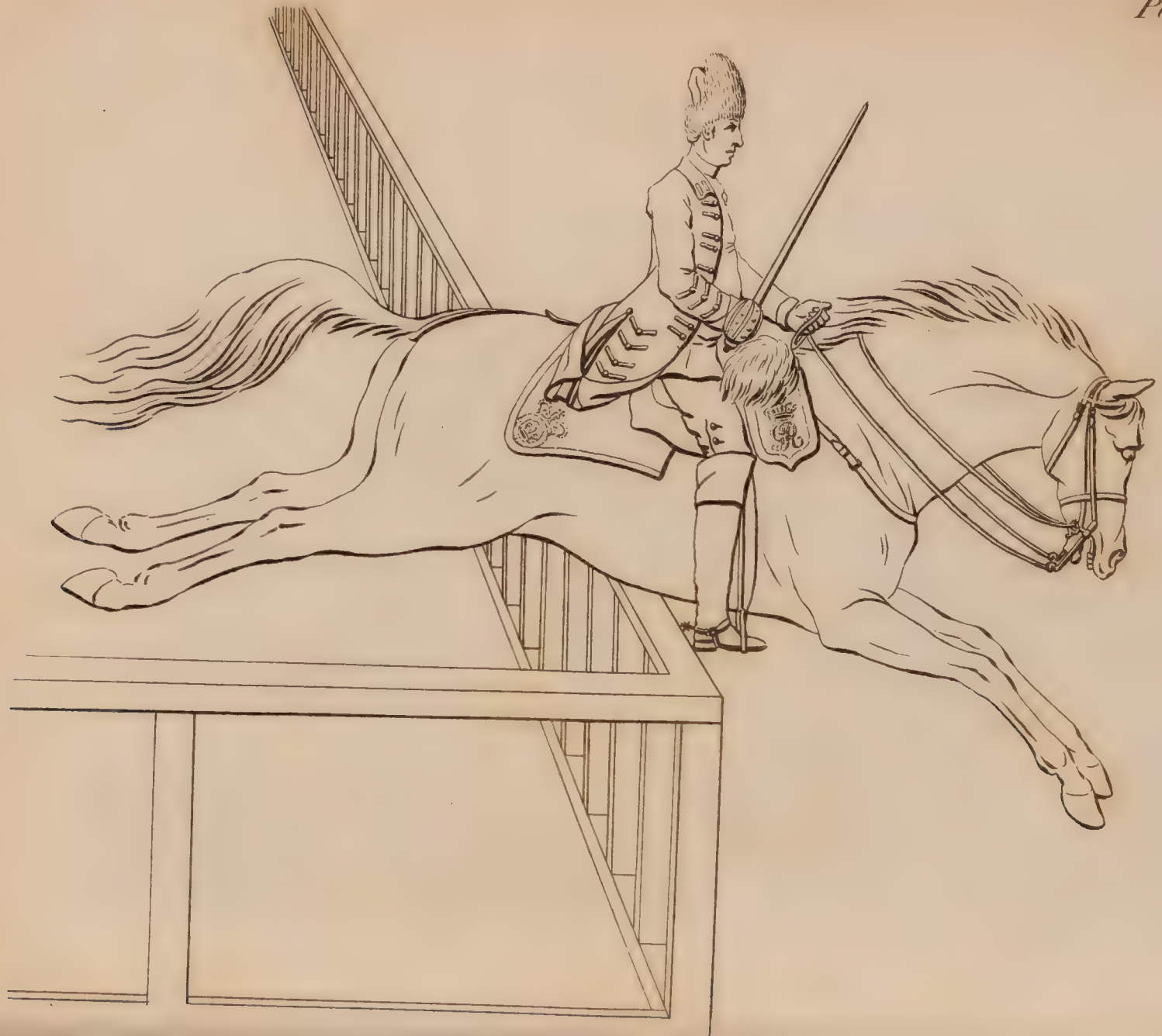
Pl. V.

Pla. 8.

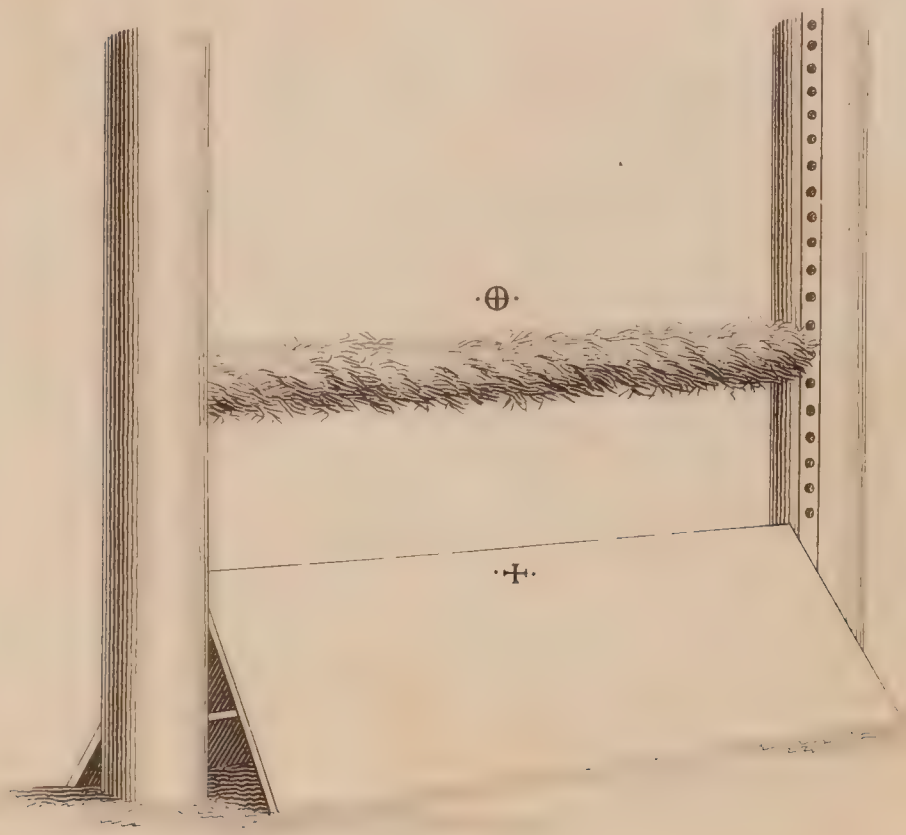
Plate 9.

Pl. 10

Pl. II.



Pla. 13.



Pla. 16.

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